

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.]

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No. 226.—VOL. 9.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1859.

PRICE 2½D.—STAMPED, 3½D.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THERE is, indeed, one thing in favour of the general cause of Peace in Europe just now. It is that war seems to be a failure as regards practical results. Louis Napoleon's last war has disappointed everybody—those who made it, those whom it was made for, and lookers-on. Even in a scientific and picturesque point of view, the campaign was no great things. There was every physical and mechanical convenience for carrying it on. The battles were isolated fights of miles long, showing no great combinations, and determined by machinery, in the way of improved guns, which make contests bloodier and less romantic at the same time. The great merit of the affair was its brevity, but there was murder enough compressed into the two months to taint the whole year with the smell of blood.

When we consider the state in which the peace has left Italy, it is difficult to see why there should have been a war at all. The Italian question is wholly unsettled, and may lead to fresh battles at any time. What Austria has lost does not gratify Italy half so much as what she retains annoys Italy. It is not anything practical, any "reform" such as we in England understand reform, that Italian patriots wanted. They wanted a principle—the establishment of a nationality. Failing in this, they fail vitally. You give them a quasi-union, a federal one. But how are you to make an Italian Confederation out of it—out of an Austrian State, a Bourbon kingdom, and a Papacy which hates liberalism, and a Power like Sardinia? Such a Happy Family was never seen in the political world before.

The most painful as well as ludicrous illustration of what we are likely to see in the way of Italian harmony is afforded by the "Papal Protest" of the 12th inst. published early in the present week. It reads like the scolding of a venomous old woman. Never was so complete an exhibition of that kind of state of mind which consists in being ignorant of the age in which one lives. All Italy is seething with revolution, and the spiritual Papa frets and fumes as if he was a weak old man dealing with troublesome children. The "audacity of the disturbers of order," "lively and just indignation"—this is the kind of way in which provincial old ladies used to talk when they heard of Mirabeau's doings. The Pope never seems to be aware that he is to blame at all, or that his system is anything

but irreproachable; whereas he is the central and vital nuisance of Italy himself, and can only exist by external support as a temporal Lord. If he is to head the Confederation in the spirit indicated by this protest, discontent must be perennial, and Europe will be periodically disturbed by Southern complications.

Napoleon, to do him justice, seems disgusted with his work, and not indisposed to make reparations to the world for the trouble he has caused by quieting the South as soon as can be done. It is impossible that he can allow his forces to be used for restoring the potentates of whose flight they were the harbingers. It is impossible—at least we hope so—that he can permit the Austrians to try it, with the certainty of infinite bloodshed. No wonder, we are told, that he wants a general Congress to help him out of his perplexities, and that he whispers hopeful things about friendship with England, disarmament, and visits to London! He has raised the devil, and finds it not so easy to lay him again.

We adhere to our opinion that Great Britain cannot well decline to give her aid in arranging these difficulties; and we repeat our hope that her advice will be given on the side of constitutionalism and liberality. The existence of the Pope in some sort of capacity may be necessary to those who rule over superstitious mobs; but even this plea cannot be brought forward for the re-establishment of the "Dukes," and circumstances, we trust, will make such a thing impossible. England is, indeed, bound to refrain from interfering between sovereigns and subjects; but, when a war has changed the face of things, she must either have a voice in their adjustment or withdraw from the European cabinet altogether. That voice, however, must be raised on the side with which her own history and politics give her most in common.

The recent rumours of an increased friendliness between Great Britain and France—if rumours can go for any thing in times like these—are welcome only in proportion to the character of the friendliness to which they point. If we have absolute and practical security from Napoleon as to his good intentions, who wants to quarrel with him? But it must be such security as we have never had yet, and must be accompanied by acts which admit of no misrepresentation. The generalities which

content Lord John Russell won't content the country in its present frame of mind. Downright disarmament, and that carried out on every side, would be welcome; but the country will accept nothing else. Besides, when it comes to be discussed, we must still be allowed a naval force proportionate to our commerce and colonies, and rendered necessary to us by the absence of that naval "inscription" which is one of the most formidable features of naval France.

It would, indeed, be pleasant to believe that Napoleon had had "enough" of war to satisfy his appetite, and that the real Empire of Peace was about to begin. But—not to mention that the state of Italy may force war upon Europe—the new understanding between Napoleon and Austria is a very ugly symptom. The bad feeling between the German Powers just now is very tempting to a potentate whose army cannot be altogether satisfied by having been cut short of its last programme. What if Austria has bought a favourable peace by giving up a kindred but jealous and exacting ally? A quarrel with Prussia could be easily improvised at Paris, and, with 300,000 men who like fighting for fighting's sake, it is, perhaps, not easy to refrain from such luxuries. The railways and telegraphs make war a rapid and easily-enjoyed pleasure; and Europe has quite enough of the old Adam in it to feel a strange pleasure in war's excitements.

Napoleon's professions of friendship towards England may be simply intended to lull her into a complacency of selfishness favourable to a Power who wishes to thrash all the other Powers one by one. In that case it is Napoleon's interest to persuade us that we stand on a different ground from other nations; that we are not concerned in questions regarding the Rhine; that we are safe, come what may, &c., &c. But we had better not be talked over in any such style. A Power like France is dangerous to every Power when once it undertakes the regulation of things without itself; and, if Napoleon is following up his predecessor's policy, he is not likely to omit that cherished part of it which consisted in trying to humiliate England. In fact, should he make war again with any Power or on any pretext, we may consider it certain that we shall be ultimately assailed, and had better prepare accordingly; and in such case, too, it would be a pity to wait till he attacked us at



THE COURSE AT CALCUTTA.—(FROM A DRAWING BY ADA CLAXTON.)

greatest advantage, which would simply be purchasing a respite a great deal too high. Our proper course would be to form an alliance with the Power first threatened, by which means each Power would have the other's security for its national independence. Fortunately his Majesty will not find it easy to get such a good, rattling pretext for a new war as he enjoyed in Italy. When he begins again he will simply be hoisting the black flag against European liberty and property, and must be treated, like those who fight under such colours, as the common enemy of the human race.

THE COURSE AT CALCUTTA.

OUR Engraving on the preceding page illustrates a scene of daily occurrence in Calcutta. It represents the "upper ten thousand," European and native, taking their evening drive round the racecourse and plain which lie between the City of Palaces and Garden-reach. Till after five in the evening the mercantile, military, and civil community are assiduously attending their daily vocations; they then hasten home in palanquins, to prepare, by cold bathing and a leisurely toilet, for the evening drive, to see the "order of the course." Every one in India, at least all Europeans and wealthy natives, keep a horse, which, by the way, may be had for almost any price—the native pony from 30 up to 150 rupees, and the horse from 100 up to 5000 rupees. The principal vehicles in use are the open carriages, buggies, and palanquin carriages. The buggy is used mostly by native gentlemen and fast young bachelors, and is in every respect like the Stanhope cabriolet. The evening drive in Calcutta has no recommendation beyond that of giving one a chance of catching the breeze from the river, and inhaling a little cool air. The same faces are seen every evening; the same equipages, drawn by the same horses, pass and repass you perhaps twenty times; and you receive and make the same formal bows, meanwhile scandalising the company, if you happen to have a companion. The drive continues till dusk, and then the riders dawdle home to a languid dinner, and, before eleven, the whole community are asleep.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE Emperor will make his public entry into Paris on Sunday, the 14th of August, at the head of a part of the army of Italy. The troops will halt on the following day, the 15th, for the Fête Napoleon. The Emperor is expected to remain at St. Cloud on the 16th and 17th, when he will proceed with the Empress to St. Sauveur, in the Pyrenees.

Preparations for the fêtes of August 15 are already begun. The municipal commission has voted an unlimited credit for them. The Emperor will ride along the Boulevards on horseback at the head of the army of Italy, or that part of it which will make a triumphal entry into Paris on that day. One of the features of the programme will be the *Escouade des Blessés*, who, carried in litters or borne upon their comrades' shoulders, will form a most important part of the procession: we may imagine the enthusiasm which the sight will create. Wounded men and officers are alike to share in this exhibition, at which everybody will be delighted, excepting, perhaps, the wounded themselves.

The Duke of Malakoff has been appointed Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour.

The Emperor has granted to the mother of General Auger an annuity of 3000fr., to be paid out of his Majesty's privy purse.

A rumour was set afloat at the beginning of the week that the Emperor intended to pay a visit to London. Not at present, we think.

SPAIN.

New arrests have been made at Seville, at Badajoz, and at Olivenza. The journals add that the Government received information that conspiracies existed for exciting disturbances in other great towns.

BELGIUM.

Belgium is seriously engaged in setting its house in order. The project for fortifying Antwerp is the topic of the day, and long details are given in Parliament as well as out of doors. The sum required is no less than 48,929,000fr., of which the great Emporium of the Scheldt undertakes to furnish one-tenth.

ITALY.

Mr. Elliot has been definitively accredited as Ambassador from England to the Court of Naples. He has delivered to the King an autograph letter from her Majesty the Queen—"We are informed," says a letter from Naples of the 19th, "that the court-martial has just pronounced sentence in the affair of the 270 prisoners taken in the Champ de Mars. Two of them have been condemned to death, and all the rest to hard labour for life."

M. Rattazzi, the Sardinian Minister of the Interior, has ordered that the National Guard shall be established without delay in all the provinces of the Sardo-Lombard kingdom.

The official *Piedmontese Gazette* publishes a circular of the Minister of the Interior to the Governors and Intendants-General of the Provinces:—

The change of Cabinet does not produce any serious variations in the character of the policy of Sardinia. The new Ministry will continue to favour, as largely as possible, the development of the great principles which are the basis of our public right.

The Minister asks the support of his subordinates in the tranquillisation of discouraged minds, in strengthening the belief in the right to liberty, and in preparing the annexed provinces for liberal institutions.

The circular concludes by promising reforms in the extension of communal and provincial liberties.

M. Cavour has left Turin for Chamouni, whence he proceeds to Oberland.

Baron Hubner, formerly Austrian Ambassador at the Court of the Tuileries, has arrived at Rome, and will replace Count Colloredo as Austrian Ambassador.

The Pope has ordered a thanksgiving for the conclusion of peace "between the two Catholic Powers."

AUSTRIA.

A Vienna letter says:—"We have to announce the commencement of some small reforms. An ordinance simplifies the formalities to be observed in civil cases, whereby the administration of justice in such matters can be effected more rapidly. Justices of peace are to be appointed for disposing summarily of petty cases in the country districts. Lastly, some new forest regulations have been accorded to the Tyrol, and they will have the effect of relieving villages of heavy charges."

Lord Loftus has made arrangements for returning to London on the 15th of August.

RUSSIA.

The *Gazette of the Senate* publishes a treaty concluded between Russia and China, and ratified by the two Emperors. The treaty contains twelve articles, and is signed at Tien-Tsin. China grants to Russia leave to send Ambassadors to Peking, promises protection to Christian missionaries, and authorises a monthly mail service between Kiachta and Peking.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The Sultan has given up his projected journey to Egypt. The *Journal de Constantinople* says that he will merely go to the Dardanelles.

AMERICA.

Advices from New York state that the State paper on the question of neutral rights had been dispatched to all American Ministers in Europe. The United States Government lays down the broad principle that nothing should be declared contraband but the direct and immediate munitions of war, and coal is excepted from this list. It was fondly hoped that the promulgation of the despatch would lead to a large order for coals, but the peace will have disappointed that hope.

REDUCTION OF THE FRENCH ARMY AND NAVY.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday contains the following:—"The Emperor has decided that the army and navy shall be restored to a peace footing with the least possible delay (*Que les armées par terre et mer seraient dans les plus brefs délais remises sur le pied de paix*)."

NAPOLEON'S LAST SPEECH.

THE diplomatic body having expressed the wish, through the organ of its President, his Excellency the Apostolic Nuncio of the Holy See, to be received by the Emperor to offer their congratulations on the conclusion of peace, they had the honour of being received by his Majesty. The Emperor, surrounded by the grand officers of his household, had at his side the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Speaking in the name of the diplomatic body, the Nuncio addressed his Majesty as follows:—

Sire,—The diplomatic body felt the want to offer to your Majesty their heartfelt and sincere congratulations on your happy return and on the conclusion of peace.

The Emperor replied as follows:—

Europe was in general so unjust towards me at the commencement of the war that I was happy to be able to conclude peace as soon as the honour and interests of France were satisfied, and to prove that it could not enter into my intentions to subvert (*bouleverser*) Europe and provoke a general war. I hope that now all causes of dissent will vanish, and that peace will be of long duration. I thank the diplomatic body for their congratulations.

We are told that on this occasion the Emperor's manner "was brusque and abrupt; he passed the Minister of Bavaria without saluting him; he had smiles for the Russian and Sardinian Ministers alone. One of his gestures was that of frequently placing his hand on the hilt of his sword." The *Times* correspondent says:—"The stoical calmness of demeanour which once characterised the Emperor Napoleon seems to be giving place to a susceptibility too strong for concealment. The irritation betrayed in the very first lines of his Majesty's reply to the very brief address of the diplomatic body has excited general attention and regret. This time the reproach apparently is not addressed to one Ambassador, as on the 1st of January last, but to the representatives of almost all European States. The tone of voice was suited to the words; the manner was brief and hurried. The representative of one of the German States was impatiently asked whether his 'fears were at last dissipated.' On the whole, the thing was gone through like a most unpleasant task, of which it might be said that the sooner it was over the better. The *Moniteur* has, I am told, inserted a word which was not spoken by the Emperor. His Majesty said, 'Europe has been so unjust,' &c., and not 'Europe in general'—the words 'in general' were added for the sake of Russia. Prussia and England are believed to be the countries to which the reproach is specially addressed."

FRENCH VIEWS OF THE ALLIANCE.

THE *Moniteur* of Tuesday appeared with a by no means satisfactory conclusive article on the English armaments. It says:—

An attempt is made in England to attribute to France the cause of the burdens imposed upon the English people for "national defences." It is the pretended exaggeration of our armaments which is made to serve as a justification for the considerable augmentation of the army and navy estimates of Great Britain.

A comparison between our estimates and those of England will show the fallacy of the assertion.

Since 1853 the English budget shows an increase of £13,480,000 (or 336,000,000 fr.), and of this sum 200,000,000 fr. are for the army and navy estimates. In the year which is commencing these two budgets will cost in England more than 650,000,000 fr., 332,500,000 fr. for the army and 320,000,000 fr. for the navy.

In France the army budget, as voted for 1860, only amounts to 339,458,744 fr., and that of the navy to 123,503,143 fr.—altogether a total of about 463,000,000 fr., consequently far below the estimates of Great Britain for the same services.

Now, if we refer to 1853, to see how we stood before the preparations for the Crimean war, we find that the army estimates were 322,740,809 fr., and the navy estimates 99,195,965 fr. Finally, if we take a still more retrospective glance, and take the last years of the last Government, we find that as regards the army we are below the expenses of 1847, which amounted to 373,365,981 fr., and 128,637,509 fr. for the navy. Doubtless the figures for 1859 and 1860 do not include the expenses of the war in Italy and those of the expedition to Cochinchina, of which it is impossible as yet to form a correct estimate; but it is probable that the loan of 500,000,000 fr. will leave a considerable sum in hand after the settlement of those expenses, and that as soon as the events which gave rise to them shall have been accomplished they will return to their normal state.

It may, then, be asked whether the enormous burdens imposed upon the English people are to be attributed to France and her extraordinary armaments, or whether those enormous outlays, and the taxes consequent thereon, must not be attributed to other causes?

It is almost needless to observe that, were the facts even as France puts them, the reasoning is utterly inconclusive. The comparison between England and France is not one of estimates, but of men; and the argument of the *Moniteur* rests on a financial quibble. England has estimates—she knows what they are, she can make them, and keep to them. An estimate in France is like that of the plausible gentleman who undertakes to cure all your ailments for two francs and a half. France has had to borrow £20,000,000 to make up for the deficiency of her last year's estimates; and when she gravely informs the world that her estimates for 1860 do not much exceed 463,000,000 fr., it is just as likely as not that her actual expenditure will be half as much again. Besides, the *Moniteur* forgets that there is such a thing as compulsory military service in France, the burden of which falls directly on the families whose sons are taken from them, as well as moneys of replacement, the burden of which falls on families who have the means of buying their sons out of the service by paying for volunteers.

The *Patrie* publishes an article on this note of the *Moniteur*. It concludes thus:—

France has done everything to free England from the nightmare of invasion in order to restore her to calmness and repose. If we do not succeed, England can only lay the blame on herself for the fears which agitate her, and which, if prolonged, would become an affront to our sincerity, feelings, and actions.

The *Débats* has distinguished itself lately by an article or two on the alliance between France and England. We quote some of the more remarkable passages:—

As a material Power, without presumption and disdain for any one, this alliance appears to us to represent now and for a long time yet to come the greatest combined force by land and sea that can be produced for the purpose of doing good or preventing evil. The Anglo-French alliance, therefore, is for the most general interest of Europe and the world, as it is also for the special interests of the two nations. This is, in a few words, the reason why we like it. But let us hasten to say it, it cannot live and last save on the condition of being sincere, reciprocal, confiding—in one word, truly cordial. Is it, then, impossible? We do not think so; for if we see very clearly all the excellent motives for peace and good accord between the English and ourselves, we are still more struck, if possible, with the inconveniences and dangers that spring up immediately on the diminution or cooling down of these good relations. We believe in this; we express the opinion of the majority of statesmen in this country, to whatever party they may belong, the opinion of the most enlightened part of the nation—of those who have so often triumphed over old prejudices and silenced old rancours.

Is it not the same in England? After what has just passed in the highest regions of public influence it is impossible to doubt it. It seems to us, indeed, that in these recent times the good sense of the English nation has preserved the alliance with France against the adverse efforts made by her statesmen. Without seeking for proof of this in the diplomatic acts already obsolete, we may find it, and even more to the purpose, in the recent discussions in both Houses of Parliament.

We know, indeed, that it is a tradition on the other side of the Channel, when the naval and military estimates are brought forward, to invoke before the eyes of the country the invasion of Old England—to show them through a magnifying glass Cherbourg, Brest, and Toulon, prepared to launch their squadrons filled with soldiers on all the neighbouring seas converted into French lakes, to-morrow, at all events, if not to-day. We know that this spectacle invariably recurs, and the pounds sterling are voted. But hitherto the principal part in that rather stale manœuvre has been performed by some eccentric personage, and we have attached but small importance to it.

The circumstances, however, under which the same scenes are repeated, the political importance of the new actors, the issues towards which they may tend, in spite even of themselves, forbid our passing over unnoticed a danger we should not have attempted to conjure up.

If by one of those veerings about which are possible any day in Parliamentary Governments a decision by a majority of a few votes more or less should bring back to power to-morrow the party overthrown yesterday, would its programme be traced out in the speeches delivered by the Opposition in the House of Lords? That would be serious. Distrust, menace, almost insult with regard to France—this is what we find in these manifestoes of the Tory party; distrust, although the Government of the Emperor does not cease by its words and acts to reassure Europe from all provocation; menace, although France abstains scrupulously from all provocation, although she has made no armed preparations beyond the requirements of the Italian war; lastly, almost insult, ill-dissembled beneath this strange appeal to superannuated passions. These are bad proceedings towards any one—dangerous towards us. England may have believed it her duty to remain neutral, and forgetting her liberal policy, she may not have wished to attempt with France to free Italy. We are not going to examine, after the peace, whether she was wrong or right before the war; but that her neutrality should be ostensibly aimed against us, this is what we do not understand, because nothing explains or justifies it.

France does not put forth the pretension to dominate anywhere. On the seas as on the continent she only desires her legitimate share of liberty and action. Is it to be said that she ought to acknowledge and submit to this domination on the part of another Power? Like England, France has rich and populous coasts, colonies near and far, a great maritime commerce, religious, political, industrial interests—in fine, a moral influence to protect over the entire surface of the globe; she has for that an army and a navy proportioned to her population, wealth, and greatness. When she sees herself constrained to do so by her honour or interests, France employs (such being her purpose) against her enemies the forces of her disposal; but she does not threaten her friends or allies, she does not doubt their loyalty, she does not provoke them by suspicions unworthy of a great nation.

We no longer believe in hereditary hatreds; we do not wish to believe any longer in traditional resentments between the two peoples. A long peace, a long interchange of relations of every kind upon a footing of equal and mutual esteem, have laid to rest, or so we fancied, those anachronisms left for dead with our glorious soldiers upon the battle-fields of the Alma and of Inkerman. Can we be mistaken?

To the suspicious and hostile neutrality of England and Germany France has opposed only calmness and moderation. The victorious Emperor restores peace to astonished Europe; can Europe be less moderate and pacific than the Emperor? England, who inquires about a vessel, more or less, armed at Brest, and who votes 300 millions for her navy—England, who counsels so loudly the Continent to disarm, is she going to set the example and withdraw from her order of the day this programme of menace or fear, the fatal effect of which we have been obliged to notice, keeping in view the alliance that we should wish to preserve? When a cloud highly charged with electricity passes over our heads, why risk the clinking of the flask from it? Who knows where it might fall?

In another and still more striking article we read—

England has just caused a strange surprise not to Europe only, but to those statesmen who fancied they knew her best, to those among her great citizens who thought they were perfectly certain to lead her. For the first time perhaps in her history she has allowed a great war to commence and continue, a rearrangement of territory to be announced and accomplished, not only without taking part in it, but with the firm resolution of having nothing to do with it. She has imposed this resolution on her statesmen; she has watched them with jealous attention, lest they might be tempted to disobey her; she has forbidden them to entertain the slightest intention of mixing up with this conflict the name and arms of the English people; and so well has she succeeded in this difficult design, that the war was brought to a close, and peace re-established in Europe, without England taking any greater part in it than Portugal or Denmark.

The Ministers who, true to the tradition of their country, formed a different idea of her interests and duties, no more succeeded in moving her than Don Quixote did in carrying off that celebrated wooden horse on which he fancied he could travel through the vast fields of air. It was in vain they let off crackers near the ears of the peaceful animal, and put squibs under his tail; nothing stirred his inflexible immobility, and after all this alarm he found himself in the same place as at first. But the question is, whether England finds herself, at the end of this episode, in the same place as at the beginning; and whether she comes out of this trial as intact as Don Quixote's steed! The future alone will show whether she has not erred in her instincts and calculations, and whether, in adopting a policy similar to America's, she has not forgotten that it is not the ocean, but merely the Channel, that separates her from a Continent filled with soldiers. If the peace party (which in England is the dominant party as the war party is with us)—if the peace party has been right—if it has actually revealed to England the admirable secret of preserving her influence over Europe without taking part in its quarrels, this party has rendered its country an immense service; if, on the contrary, it has been mistaken—if, in prematurely disengaging England from her Continental ties, it has deprived her at the same time too soon of her supports, it has placed in extreme jeopardy not only the greatness of its country, but its very existence.

In fact, the aspect of Europe must awaken now very different feelings in the breast of a Frenchman and in that of an Englishman, and may give to the former as many hopes as to the latter just sources of uneasiness. England can say to herself, "I have never been much liked upon the Continent, but I was feared there; now they fear me much less, and do not like me more on that account. I had not long since before me a nation powerful and jealous, but isolated and surrounded as it were by my natural allies, now I see in Europe only old enemies who have not pardoned my successes, only old friends who attribute to me their reverses. I was accustomed to fight against one alone, with the help of several; I may have to fight several, and can no longer depend upon the aid of one. Those whom I have left to defend themselves alone would see me without displeasure undergo the same trial, and would calmly represent to me that it is for the general interest to localise the war. What boots it to me if, sheltered by my ships, I can defy the whole universe? But it is very expensive to have for the future to guard oneself against the whole universe, and necessarily to be in expectation of a great day when all will be saved or lost. Perhaps I was not wrong to have had formerly allies in the world, and to have accustomed them to depend on me, in order that I myself might depend on them. I have changed my system; the event will tell me if I have done right." On her side France can consider Europe with some security and even some hope; she may say to herself:—"Formerly I could not raise my arm against any one without being immediately forced to parry the blow of another; now, if I have any quarrel of this kind to settle, they will willingly see me at it, and there will be some to applaud me who formerly would have fought with me. *Parcere subjectis* is really a great maxim, and I have derived great advantages from it. If I see an occasion or necessity for it, I shall willingly apply the second half of the verse, and shall thereby please everybody. But whatever may happen here I am surrounded with old adversaries, to whom I have proved that I possessed the power rather than the wish to injure them, and that I desired less their defeat than their friendship. Let us wait and hope."

Such is pretty nearly for us and our neighbours the moral of the fable that has just been recited to Europe. This fable is instructive for every one, especially for the philosopher and historian, who love to account for the progress of human affairs. It has a certain grandeur from the extent of the scene and the importance of the interests at stake there; but it has also a comic side through the ridicule produced by certain actors. We must not seek to criticise the mysterious Ordainer of our destinies, if, liking sometimes to make us laugh, it pleases him to bestow a part on Messrs. Bright, Cobden, and some other persons of similar genius, in the events that change the face of the world.

THE AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

CONFERENCE AND CONGRESS.

THE Conference of the three Powers—France, Austria, and Piedmont—will probably take place at Zurich next week. We hear, however, that Austria refuses to meet any Sardinian representative, but will leave it open to Sardinia to accede to the treaty after it shall have been concluded between Austria and France. The representatives have been named:—Baron Bourqueney for France, Count Colloredo for Austria, and M. des Ambrois for Sardinia.

A letter from Berlin of the 20th in the *New Gazette of Hanover* says:—"Overtures have been made to our Cabinet on the subject of a Congress by France and Russia. The French Government makes known that it consents to a Congress being convoked, though Austria objects to one. The Russian Government insists on the necessity of the co-operation of all the European Powers in modifying European treaties, and at the same time indicates a disposition to place the additional territory obtained by Sardinia under the general guarantee of Europe. The Prussian Government has not yet taken any decision on the question, and it is probable that before doing so it awaits communications from England."

French politicians affirm that the English Government agrees to take part in the Congress which is to be held on the proposed Italian Confederation.

THE CONFEDERATION.

Count Walewski, Cardinal Antonelli, and many other statesmen no doubt, have been busy themselves on a scheme of confederation for the Italian States. We are told that M. Walewski's plan has been submitted unofficially and confidentially to the Cabinets interested. "In it M. Walewski evidently takes for granted the restoration of the deposed Sovereigns of Modena and Tuscany, and the establishment of the Duchess of Parma somewhere. M. Walewski's confederation consists of seven States. By the Villafranca treaty the nominal or honorary Presidency was given to the Pope; that high office will be filled in reality by the Kings of Sardinia and Naples, each taking turn about. As such a body cannot exist without the means of defence, a federal army will be created for the defence of the Federal territory—the contingents to be fixed according to the extent of the States respectively. The strong places which will be garrisoned by the Federal troops are Gaeta, partly Neapolitan, partly Federal; Mantua, partly Austrian and partly Federal; and Piacenza, half Federal and the remaining half Piedmontese. (*Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?*) M. Walewski, it is to be hoped, will disclose the talisman by which he means to keep such discordant elements as Parmesans and Swiss, Tuscans and Neapolitans, the soldiers of the Pope, the Sardinians and Croats, in complete harmony. The Federal Council it is proposed to organise thus:—Parma and Modena are to have one vote each; the Pope two; Tuscany two; Austria, for Venetia, two; and Piedmont and Naples three each."

Cardinal Antonelli has given orders to search for an old plan drawn up by one Father Orsini. A scheme has also been drawn up by two former Tuscan Ministers now at Rome, who are in frequent communication with his Eminence. The articles are said to be as follow:—

1. The States forming the Confederation reciprocally guarantee the integrity of each other's territory, as well against every external foe as against any internal revolutionary movement.
2. Each of the States will have its representative at Rome, and all the representatives sitting in the college will form the Diet, whose duty it will be—to provide for the guarantee of their respective territories by fixing the military contingents, assigning garrisons to the federal fortresses, and discussing the territorial variations and treaties made between States of the Confederation, when they affect the common interest. The Diet will also endeavour to bring about a system of currency, of weights and measures, of customs, post-offices, public health, railways, &c., &c., that shall be common to all the States. It may recommend, but is not to enforce, internal administrative reforms on the various States.

The correspondent of the *Débat* says that the above draught is likely to find favour with Cardinal Antonelli. From other sources we learn that the Cardinal claims not merely the *honorary* but the *real and bona fide* Presidency for his Holiness.

The Emperor of Austria has now been officially informed by the King of Naples that he sees no reason to refuse his adhesion to the proposed Confederation.

THE PONTIFICAL STATES.

The *Modena Gazette* assures its readers that "his Majesty the Emperor Napoleon has written to his Holiness concerning the organisation of the Pontifical States, and particularly of the Legations. According to our correspondent the Legations will find in this solution a state of things sufficiently in conformity with their desires and wants. The Emperor is said to have further declared that there will be no intervention in Central Italy, either by Austria or France, so long as the actual order of things is not disturbed."

SARDINIA AND THE DUCHIES—THREATENING SYMPTOMS.

Sardinia has withdrawn its commissioners in Tuscany, Modena, and Parma. Chevalier Buoncampagni, the Tuscan commissioner, in announcing his departure, informs the troops that they are to defend the country from foreign aggression.

The Tuscan Minister of the Interior has published a report to this effect:—That the result of the deliberations on the question of the annexation of Tuscany to Piedmont has been made known from 141 places, including Leghorn and Florence. "This result shows 809 affirmative against 15 negative votes, representing the wishes and interests of 1,135,863 inhabitants. The result of the elections of members of a Special Assembly is also favourable to the independence of Tuscany. When the Assembly shall have received the members from the other towns it will give its vote."

The Grand Duke of Tuscany has expressed his willingness to abdicate in favour of his son, who promises a Constitution; but the Tuscans object altogether to the dynasty.

The town of Reggio, in Modena, has presented, through General Campi, an address to the King of Sardinia, in which the people say:—"Sir, we are devoted to you; do not withdraw your representative; we look to you for protection."

In a letter from Modena, of the 19th, we read:—"The municipalities vote money, and the people subscribe. Everybody wants arms. The fullest confidence is placed in the authorities. The restoration of the fugitive Duke, without the aid of foreign troops, is impossible."

The municipality of Parma has voted an address to King Victor Emmanuel, in which it is said:—"We are with your Majesty and for your Majesty, and will always remain so with courage and confidence."

The province of Guastalla, in Parma, has declared in a public protest that any attempt to place it under a detested domination shall be resisted to the utmost, even with the weapons of despair.

Military preparations are going on busily and generally in all the States of Central Italy, the Romagna Legations included. At Ancona the Pope's General, Kalbarmatten, has issued a threat of severe punishment against everybody who should attempt to persuade the Pope's soldiers to desert their colours.

M. Pallavicini has been sent to Paris with an autograph letter from the Duchess of Parma to the Emperor Napoleon.

GARIBALDI'S MOVEMENTS.

On the arrival of the news of peace, we are told, General Garibaldi assembled his soldiers, and, after having calmed their excitement by a noble address, he requested them to renew the oath of fidelity to the King, which they did without opposition. Another story is that Garibaldi wished to resign his post in the Sardinian army, of which he is a General, and that Victor Emmanuel refused to accept his resignation. "A Sardinian General cannot resign," said he. Later news of the Italian hero informs us that "he is now contemplating a move from the Alps to the Apennines—from Northern to Central Italy. There will be a gathering of about 50,000 volunteers in Romagna. Garibaldi's corps joined to that of Mezzocapo will form an army capable of securing the independence of Central Italy, at least against any Roman or Neapolitan—any merely Italian force."

PROSPECTS OF A CONTINUANCE OF THE PEACE.

In an Austrian circular to the Austrian representatives in Germany it is confessed that Austria thought a project of mediation lately published in the *Magegne Gazette* genuine, and one on which Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia had already agreed. The Government of Prussia has since repudiated all connection with, and knowledge of, this project. But how came it that Austria got knowledge of this spurious document, and attached credence to it? The *Cologne Gazette* pretends to give some information on this point. It says that the project was one which the French Ambassador in London had submitted to Lord John Russell, and which had then been given by Lord John to the Austrian Ambassador, who reported hence upon it. It would therefore seem to have a French origin. Whether the misapprehensions under which (as thus appears) the Emperor of Austria laboured when concluding the peace will contribute to make that peace durable remains to be seen.

The conditions of peace which the neutral Powers were said to wish to impose on Austria were the following:—

Austria to cede Lombardy to the Emperor of the French, who was to dispose of it as he might think fit. Sardinia to have an increase of territory as an indemnification for her outlay during the war. Venetia to be a separate and independent State, under an Austrian Archduke. A Confederation of Italian States to be formed. A Congress of the Great Powers to decide what is to be done with Tuscany, Modena, and Parma. The Congress to decide what share of the national debt was to fall on Lombardy.

The journals in Lombardy and Piedmont are naturally full of com-

ments on what was printed in the Verona paper two days after the Villafranca arrangement. The article was dated from "head-quarters":—

The sacrifice of Lombardy is great, no doubt, but we find consolation in the reflection that what is momentarily ceded is not always lost. Influences change. Fortune will not always be against us. Sooner or later we shall cross the Mincio in order to reconquer the tombs of the heroes of Somma and Custoza—that land soaked with our blood shall still be ours. God promises it to us from the heavenly regions through the voice of the white-haired Kuletzky. Austria is obliged to make peace; but we must not forget that, while she retains the quadrilateral of the fortresses, she may still consider herself, in a military point of view, as the mistress of the whole valley of the Po. She only leaves the Lombards to the intemperance of their political feelings—the end of the drama we shall see at another time.

THE POPE AND THE WAR.

The following circular of the Pontifical Government to its representatives at foreign Courts has been issued:—

Palace of the Vatican, July 12.

Amid all the apprehensions and anxieties caused by the present deplorable war, the Holy See had reason to think that it would be unmolested, after the many assurances it had received—assurances with which even the King of Piedmont had associated himself; for on the advice of the Emperor of the French, his ally, he refused the dictatorship which was offered him in the revolted provinces of the Pontifical States. But, it is painful to state, things have turned out very differently, and facts occur every day under the eyes of the Holy See and its Government which show more and more how inexcusable is the conduct of the Sardinian Cabinet towards the Holy See—conduct which clearly proves that it is intended to strip the Holy See of a part of its temporal dominions.

Since the revolt of Bologna, which his Holiness in his allocution of June 30 has already taken occasion to deplore, that city has become the rendezvous of a multitude of Piedmontese officers, coming from Tuscany and Modena for the purpose of preparing quarters for the Piedmontese troops. From these foreign States thousands of muskets have been brought, wherewith to arm insurgents and volunteers; cannons, also, have been imported, to aggravate the trouble in the revolted provinces, and to encourage the audacity of the disturbers of order.

Another fact, which renders the refusal of the dictatorship completely illusory, and adds to a flagrant violation of neutrality an active co-operation in the maintenance of the States of the Church, is the nomination of the Marquis d'Azeglio as an extraordinary Commissioner in Romagna to direct the movement of the legations during the war. This step, under the specious pretext of preventing the national movement from leading to any disorder, is a manifest usurpation of power which affects the rights of the territorial Sovereign of these States.

Events have moved on so rapidly that the Piedmontese troops have already entered the Pontifical States, occupying Torre Urbano and Castel Franco, in which places Piedmontese bersagliers and a part of Norvi's brigade have arrived. The sole object of this movement is to join the rebels in opposing an energetic resistance to the Pontifical troops which have been sent to restore legitimate power in the rebellious provinces.

Finally, and to complete the usurpation of the legitimate sovereignty of the Pope, two officers of engineers, one of whom is a Piedmontese, have been sent to Ferrara to mine and destroy the fortress.

Such odious proceedings, in the perpetration of which a flagrant violation of the law of nations is manifest in more than one point of view, cannot but fill the soul of the Holy Father with bitterness, and provoke in him a lively and just indignation, which is rendered more poignant still by the surprise with which he sees such enormities proceed from the Government of a Catholic King who had accepted the advice of his august ally to refuse the dictatorship offered to him. All the measures taken with the view of preventing or extenuating this series of evils having been in vain, the Holy Father, not forgetful of the duties incumbent upon him for the protection of the States and for the preservation in its integrity of the temporal domain of the Holy See, which is essentially connected with the free and independent exercise of the Supreme Pontificate, protests against the violations and usurpations committed in spite of the acceptance of neutrality, and desires that his protest may be communicated to all the European Powers. Confident in the justice which distinguishes these Powers, he feels assured that they will support him; they will not permit the success of a manifest violation of the law of nations and the rights of the Holy Father. He trusts that they will not hesitate to co-operate in the vindication of those rights, and to that end he invokes their assistance and protection.

The Pope has addressed an autograph letter to the Cardinal Bishop of Albano, requesting him to invite all the faithful of Rome to join in a solemn thanksgiving for the cessation of war. The following is the principal passage of this document:—

To thank God for the restoration of peace between the two great Catholic belligerent Powers is our duty; but to continue our prayers is a necessity, inasmuch as divers provinces of the States of the Church are still a prey to the men who are intent upon demolishing the established order of things; and it is with this view that in our days a foreign usurping Power proclaims that God hath made man free as regards his political and religious opinions, thus denying the authorities established by God upon earth, and to whom respect and obedience are due, forgetting, at the same time, the immortality of the soul, when it passeth from this transitory world to the eternal one, shall have to answer to the all-powerful and inexorable Judge for those religious opinions; then learning too late that there is but one God and one faith, and that whoever quitieth the ark of unity shall be submerged in the deluge of eternal punishment.

PRUSSIAN POLICY.

The official *Prussian Gazette* of July 22 contains an article denying that Prussia put forward or countenanced any project of mediation during the late war.

The various erroneous opinions which have been of late promulgated as regards the objects Prussia had in her endeavours for a mediation have induced the Prussian Cabinet to address the following correctional circular despatch to the Embassies in Germany:—

Count Rechberg, immediately after his return from Verona, said to the Royal Prussian Ambassador at Vienna as follows:—"Austria has accepted the preliminaries of peace principally because the conditions of mediation proposed by the neutral Great Powers were less favourable for Austria than those upon which the Emperor of the French desired to treat." The Emperor of Austria, in his manifesto of the 15th inst., expressed himself to the same effect. To the circular of Count Rechberg recently confided to me, a project of mediation, said to be communicated to France by England, was added, to the conditions of which Prussia should have consented.

"You are authorised to express most positively—1. That on the side of Prussia no conditions of a mediation whatever had been advanced, nor have any such, coming from any other Power, been accepted by her.

"2. That the project added to the Austrian circular, and since published in the newspapers, was entirely unknown to us. "VOX SCHLEINITZ."

Under date of the 24th of June Count de Schleinitz, the Prussian Minister for Foreign Affairs, addressed a despatch to the Prussian Ambassadors at London and St. Petersburg relative to the war in Italy. After alluding to the rapidity in which political events succeeded each other, and which caused Prussia to "mobilise" her army, the despatch says:—

You will understand, Sir, that it is our duty at once to assume a position to watch the course of events, the final result of which might modify the balance of power in Europe by weakening an empire to which we are bound by the bonds of the German Confederation, and by infringing upon the bases of international law, to the foundation of which we have contributed, and the maintenance of which is in the interest of the family of European States.

The attitude which we have thought fit to assume is in no manner prejudicial to the Italian question, nor the various interests connected therewith. But it was impossible for the Prince Regent, in the consciousness of his right, and the duties which his own dignity and the interests of his country and of Germany commanded, to announce the right of exercising a legitimate influence, or to approve beforehand by a passive attitude the changes which territorial limits have undergone, or may undergo, in one of the countries connected by so many links with the great family of European Nations.

After stating that Prussia by no means wished to take the initiative without coming to an understanding with Russia and England with a view to a peaceful solution, and after declaring that the armaments of Prussia were not made to create new complications, the despatch continues:—

We desire peace, and, taking this as a starting-point, we confidently address ourselves to the Cabinets of London and St. Petersburg to find, in concert with them, the means of putting an end to bloodshed, and to restore as speedily as possible to Europe that peace and security which its moral and material interests require.

After censuring the resolution of Austria to declare war, the despatch continues:—

Nevertheless, despite that mistake, we are of opinion that Europe, and

Germany in particular, cannot look with indifference upon the weakening of a Power which has always appeared to us to be, by its geographical position and its peculiar conformation, an essential element and a natural guarantee of the balance of power.

After expressing the approval of the substitution of some combination more in harmony with the feelings of the populations than the protectorate exercised by Austria over certain Italian States, and the hope that, as the Emperor Napoleon had distinctly declared he did not seek conquests or aggrandisement for France, the joint intervention of Prussia, in concert with the Courts of Russia and of England, would lead to an amicable solution, Count Schleinitz concludes as follows:—

We hope, Sir, that you will have no difficulty in obtaining from the English (Russian) Government as frank a statement as we have made on its view of the solution of the present complications, and the best means of making propositions acceptable to the belligerent parties. I beg of you at the same time to express to Lord John Russell (to Prince Gortschakoff) our hope and our wish to exert our action and our influence in concert with that of the English (Russian) Cabinet to hasten the conclusion of peace and the renewal of negotiations between the belligerent parties; and do not omit any opportunity of bringing forward the plan of a joint mediation, on the form and purpose of which we most anxiously await the communications which the Government of her Majesty the Queen of England (of the Emperor of Russia) may, we hope, feel inclined to make.

The Prussian reply to Lord John Russell's despatch (which we reprinted last week) has also appeared. Count Schleinitz says:—

Without subscribing altogether to Lord John Russell's arguments in favour of the principle of neutrality, the observance of which he recommends to Prussia in fear of the grave events of which Italy is the theatre, we gladly hear that his Lordship acknowledges that the peculiar position in which Germany is placed may justify and explain the divergences which possibly exist between our own attitude and that of her Britannic Majesty's Government. Our despatch of the 24th (that above given), which was already written when the communication of the Cabinet of St. James's reached us, shows, at the same time, our impressions with regard to the Italian crisis, the duties which it impresses upon us, and the aim to which our efforts are directed.

A letter from Frankfurt says that Prussia intends to protest in the Diet against the continuance of the Austrian practice of sending Italian regiments to the Federal fortresses, as parts of the Austrian Federal contingent.

IRELAND.

THE PHENIX CLUB CONSPIRATORS.—In the exercise of a wise discretion the Government have withdrawn from the prosecution of the Phoenix Club conspirators. They pleaded guilty, and the Attorney-General consented that they should be liberated on their own recognisances, to come up for judgment when called for. Mr. Justice Keogh gave his cordial assent to this course.

SYNOD OF THE IRISH BISHOPS.—We understand that a synod of the Bishops of Ireland will be held on the 2nd of August. Several important matters are to be taken into consideration.

CURIOUS PHENOMENA.—The *Tipperary Examiner* has a paragraph on the appearance which the heavens presented in the neighbourhood of Clonmel, Cashel, Ardhan, and over Slieve Donard, on Sunday evening. "The 'sight' has been variously described from different points of observation, and we have endeavoured to collate them all, with the following result:—About seven o'clock in the evening a bank of clouds rose slowly to the south, and, having attained almost a middle point between the zenith and the horizon, divided abruptly—one half subduing to the east, the other to the west. As the bodies of vapour careered in opposite directions they assumed the most fantastic formations; and it required no great exercise of the inventive faculty to distinguish in their broken and scattered forms the dense columns of infantry, the flashing lines of cavalry squadrons, the dense array of artillery, the gorgeous standards, and other paraphernalia of the battle-field. Spectators in whom the imaginative faculty predominated affirmed that they could distinguish the isolated movements of individual soldiers and the rearing and plunging of war-horses. About nine o'clock the splendid mirage, with all its pomp and circumstance, vanished, and, like the foundation of Prospero's vision, 'left not a wreck behind.'"

THE GALWAY PACKET STATION.—At a great public meeting held at Galway on Friday, the Rev. P. Daly furnished a detailed statement of a mission to London in the interests of Galway as a packet station. He gave a glowing account of the support which he received from the late Government, and stated that he did not find the present Government animated by the same friendly feelings. He read a letter which he had received from the Treasury to the effect that the Government could not at present undertake the expense of the great improvements which were sought for in the harbour of Galway.

THE PROVINCES.

STRIKE OF PITMEN IN NORTHUMBERLAND.—About five hundred pitmen belonging to Seaton Delaval Colliery, in Northumberland, struck work on Monday, because the masters would not make an advance of 3d. a ton. The men are under an engagement to work from month to month, and to give and take a month's notice before leaving their employment; but the men struck without giving an hour's notice. Eight of the more active among the men were committed to gaol for two months each for leaving their work. The more intelligent of the men before the bench said they broke their contract in violation of their better sense, but that they had to submit to the majority.

MR. LAYARD AND HIS SUPPORTERS.—On Thursday week Mr. Layard's supporters at York presented him with a splendid silver dessert service. Next day he was entertained at a banquet. Mr. Layard delivered an able speech, in the course of which he expressed his conviction that Mr. Cobden was perfectly right in declining at present to enter the Cabinet.

INCAUTIOUS BATHING.—A shocking accident occurred on the evening of Friday week at Barking. A man was teaching his two sons to swim, by swimming himself while they clung to his back. Suddenly, however, he was seized with the cramp. One of the boys dashed from him, safely reaching the shore; but he and the other boy sank. Amidst the cries of those on land he rose and made for the shore, still bearing the body of his son, and once more he made a desperate effort, but in vain, and he finally sank, bearing with him the body of his child.

THE LOMBARD TERRITORY.—*Galvani* gives the subjoined statistics of Lombardy:—"Lombardy has a superficies of 8538 square miles, and a population of 2,800,000 souls. Lombardy has hitherto been divided administratively into nine provinces or delegations—viz., Milan, Pavia, Lodi, Cremona, Mantua, Como, Sondrio, Brescia, and Bergamo. The fortified towns of Mantua and Peschiera form part of the province of Mantua. The fortress of Pizzighetone is comprised in the province of Cremona. After the annexation of Lombardy to Piedmont this kingdom, the island of Sardinia included, will contain a superficies of 37,640 square miles, with a population of 7,800,000. As regards territorial extent it will occupy a tenth rank in Europe, and will come immediately after the kingdom of the Two Sicilies, and stands before Portugal and Bavaria. With respect to population, Sardinia will stand in the ninth rank, on a level with Naples, and will be above Sweden and Norway, Belgium, and Bavaria. The following table will complete the comparison as regards Italy:—

	Area—Square Miles.	Population.
New Kingdom	37,640	7,800,000
Venetia	9,523	2,200,000
Papal States	17,218	2,900,000
Tuscany	8,741	1,750,000
Parma	2,268	500,000
Modena	2,000	410,000
Two Sicilies	4,200	8,400,000

SHIPS IN ORDINARY.—There are now lying in ordinary in the Royal Navy about 120 vessels, exclusive of mortar-vessels and floats; nineteen of these are to be converted into screw-ships, and the conversion of seven is under consideration. There is also a list of eighty-seven receiving-ships, coaling-hulks, &c. Four ships have been broken up or sold since January, 1830, without having been commissioned.

THE SHAH ON HIS TRAVELS.—The Shah of Persia has this year made a long journey through his dominions. It appears that on this occasion, contrary to the usual custom, the inhabitants of the provinces through which he passed had not to complain of contributions levied on them by the Royal suite. The journey was interesting, inasmuch as the Persian provinces are stocked with game. One day the Shah stopped to hunt the deer in the province of Kezash, which is celebrated for that game, but in hunting the deer the Royal party roused a herd of wild boars, and his Imperial Majesty was forced to ascend a tree for safety.

THE CAMP AT CHALONS.—The camp this year is more numerous than last year, comprising an effective force of 35,000 men, under the orders of General Schramm. The troops are divided into four divisions—three of infantry and one of cavalry. There are twelve regiments of infantry, four of cavalry, and three battalions of riflemen. There are also in the camp three batteries of artillery, two companies of engineers, and some detachments of the baggage train and commissariat. Hitherto the troops have only been exercised by regiments; next month they will be exercised by divisions; and in October there will be grand manoeuvres.



LIEUTENANT.



PRIVATE.



SURGEON.

CHASSEURS OF THE ALPS. GARIBALDI'S CORPS.—(FROM SKETCHES BY M. DUPONT).

THE CHASSEURS OF THE ALPS.

Those who have sacrificed most to the supposed war of Italian independence and gained least by the peace which has closed it are the brave followers of Garibaldi. From Tuscany and Parma, from Venetia and the Romagna, flocked, in answer to the call of Victor Emmanuel, thousands of the choicest youth Italy could boast.

When Austria threatened Sardinia, Garibaldi was the first to offer his sword and services to the King, generously forgetting in that Monarch's ally the man who had once already trampled down Italian freedom at Rome. Garibaldi, a true soldier and an honest man himself, found it difficult to discredit Napoleon the Third's proclamation to the world, that Italy was to be free from the Alps to the Adriatic; and the cause to be served and the prestige of the Republican Captain's name associated with it brought thousands of volunteers to swell the ranks of the Piedmontese army.

These volunteers were formed into a special corps, called "Chasseurs of the Alps," and placed under the command of Garibaldi, who had conferred on him by the King of Sardinia the rank of General of Division. Never probably was raised a more distinguished legion. Amongst its numbers were to be found the scions of houses whose names are written on the pages of history, doctors of law and medicine from the Universities of Pavia who have left their dusty tomes to hurl the

Tedeschi forth, while other nations had delegates to represent them in the struggle for liberty.

A correspondent who was but lately at Garibaldi's head-quarters thus speaks of the Chasseurs of the Alps:—"It is not rare to find in this singular corps the common soldier a better informed and educated man than his epauletted commander. The charm thrown by the hero of Montevideo over the whole Italian population has enlisted young men of the highest classes, artists, literary men, professors, and scholars, in his ranks as mere privates. Even the veteran Montanelli, once a ruler in Tuscany, and for many years an illustrious exile in Paris, the author of "Camma" and other historical and literary works, quitted his wife in Turin, and followed his only son, who had embarked as a common soldier in this perilous venture. Among a hundred Italians you find, perhaps, five or six adventurers of all other countries, French, Swiss, and Germans, Spaniards, Americans of both continents, and even a Chinese and an Englishman. The latter is a man of near 60, of a tall and colossal frame, imperfectly acquainted with the language, and ignorant of most Italian matters. Between him and his fellow-combatants there is hardly any intercourse. He makes war at his own expense, and encamps apart from the corps. He receives no orders, asks for no information as to the General's movements. He is indefatigable in the march—intrepid in the fight. Garibaldi num-

bers fifty, or perhaps one hundred, of the best marksmen in Europe, but the Englishman is the deadliest shot. He is never wanting at the hour of strife; he takes his place in some hidden nook, all alone, aloof from the rest, squatted on the ground calm and impassionate, taking leisurely aim, like a sportsman awaiting the lion or the wild boar at the brook. He has a double-barrelled rifle, a sabre, but no bayonet, and takes no part in the mêlée when the Garibaldini come to close quarters. Some people told him he must be very strongly devoted to the Italian cause to come out in arms in support at his time of life. He answered, with a yawn, he was very fond of shooting, and must take part either on one side or the other."

As we have already said above, the Chasseurs of the Alps are heartily repaid their numerous achievements by a peace which sends many of them back to their old tyrants, who, though promising general amnesty, will find means to deal with their revolted subjects. But neither Garibaldi nor his men are likely to accept the terms imposed by France and Austria; and that they will yet further be called upon to draw the sword in the cause of deceived Italy seems more than probable. Additional volunteers swell their ranks daily—not a token that the hastily-concluded peace will be a permanent one.



BRIDGE AND ENTRANCE TO FIRST GALLERY OF THE STELVIO PASS.—(FROM A SKETCH BY W. STOWE.)



ASCENT OF THE STELVIO PASS FROM BORMIO.—(FROM A SKETCH BY W. STOWE.)

THE STELVIO PASS.

The occupation of the Valteline by the troops of Garibaldi has drawn attention to one of the most famous passes in the world, and we are happy being able to present our readers with illustrations of two of its most

prominent features. The Stelvio Pass is in the mountains which rejoin the Rhetian Alps to the mass of the Ortler, and confine the upper part of the Valteline. It is the highest point in Europe over which man has carried a road; being 8850 feet high, that is, 1183 feet higher than

the Mount St. Bernard, over which no vehicle can pass, and nearly 1000 feet above the region of perpetual snow. When the treaties of Vienna placed Lombardy and Venetia under the domination of Austria, that Power became desirous to open



THE AIDE-DE-CAMP OF GENERAL ZOBELE DELIVERING A LETTER FROM THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA TO THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

direct communication between Vienna and Milan; and as the road by Istria and Carinthia, in the south, and that by Salzburg, Innsbruck, and the Brenner, to the north, were very long and difficult, whilst the route by the valley of the Inn, the Col of la Maloja, and the Lake of Como, passed partly over Swiss territory, the Austrian Government resolved to construct a passage over the Col of Stelvio. The road enters a narrow valley, and ascends slightly for about two leagues. Then the zigzags commence, and they lead to a spot from which are seen the glaciers of the Cristallo in front, and to the left the Ortler-Spitz, a cone covered with frozen snow, 12,058 feet high, and the culminating point of all the Tyrol. Our view of the bridge and entrance to the first gallery may be considered the commencement of the ascent of the Stelvio Pass from the Italian side. In the course of these windings are several long tunnels, solidly built, the object of which is to protect the most exposed parts of the road against avalanches and falls of stones. These galleries have saved the lives of many travellers. At the spot where they begin all vegetation has ceased; there is nothing but rock and snow; even the roaring of torrents is not heard; and the deathlike silence which prevails is only occasionally interrupted by the cry of the eagle, the fall of avalanches, or the raging of storms.

In descending on the side of the Valteline some buildings are found known as cantonieras. From the Col to this station the road descends in zigzags between high banks of stone. Further on it enters a frightful defile called the "Horrors of Bormio," being an immense rent in the mountain, and at the bottom the Adula rolling along. In this pass the road is carried over precipices by means of bridges, through masses of rock by means of tunnels, and in some cases it passes beneath cascades. At last it reaches Bormio, and there the passage of the Col ends. The contrast between the beauty of the country beyond Bormio and the horrible defile is most striking. On the map, Glurns and Bormio seem near together; but the winding road which unites them is fifteen leagues long, and is everywhere so steep that only pedestrians, horses, or light mail-carts can pass over it. The expense of making the road must have been enormous, and the engineering difficulties immense.

INTERVIEW OF AN AUSTRIAN ENVOY WITH NAPOLEON III. AT VALEGGIO.

ON the very day that preparations were being made for a great battle before Verona missives of a strictly confidential character were passing between the Emperors of France and Austria. Indeed, so little was known at the Sardinian headquarters of the nature of these communications, and their result: was so unexpected by the King and his Generals, that the news of the armistice, when brought to Monzambano, was looked upon as a canard.

However, to the disgust of the whole of the allied army, and more especially to the Piedmontese, the truce turned out to be a positive fact. The soldiers were never in a better condition than at the time of the signing of the armistice. They had been resting for days in camp, reposing from the fatigues of their rapid march on Brescia and the victory which brought them to the banks of the Mincio. The men, despite the great heat of the weather, enough in itself to prostrate any army, were full of spirits, eager for another brush with the enemy, and were looking forward to a decisive battle, when the truce stepped in, as a kind of "spoils of war," *gâte tout*, as they termed it.

Our Illustration shows the reception by the Emperor Napoleon of an Aide-de-Camp of General Zobel, charged with a letter from Francis Joseph, apropos of the armistice.

SLAVE IMMIGRATION.

ON Saturday an influential deputation waited upon the Duke of Newcastle to confer with him on the subject of the coolie trade. The deputation was headed by Lord Brougham, and Mr. Chamerzow, the secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society, read a memorial which was adopted at the meeting recently held in the London Tavern. An animated discussion between the Duke and various members of the deputation took place. The result of it was that his Grace thought the object of the memorialists might perhaps be accomplished if a series of searching inquiries were sent to persons living in the West Indies and elsewhere who could give information on the subject. The Anti-Slavery Society might take part in framing the questions, and could name some of the individuals to whom they should be forwarded. The deputation appeared to concur in the propriety of this suggestion; and, at a meeting which was held after the interview, Lord Brougham further proposed that a number of gentlemen, now in this country, who are able to give evidence, should be privately examined by some suitable person to be appointed by the Duke.

The allegations set forth in the memorial amount, there can be no doubt, to an entire condemnation of the immigration scheme, and would, if sustained by evidence, justify its entire prohibition, under the heaviest penalties. They are, that the immigrants themselves are wholly ignorant of the nature of the contract they are induced to enter into; they are always enlisted by fraud, and not unfrequently obtained by violence; there is an enormous disproportion in the relative numbers of the sexes; the mortality on their distant voyages to the scene of their future toils is often as great as in the worst days of the horrible middle passage of the Africans; they are swept off by hundreds in the colonies to which they are carried; while their moral and spiritual condition is wholly neglected; and, finally, the remnant of them are swindled out of their earnings by bits of worthless paper, dishonoured when they come to port in their native country. These things are not only alleged as connected with the interests of the wretched foreigners who are said to be duped, defrauded, and the half of them destroyed; but it is also alleged that grievous injustice is done to the free negro. He is said to be compelled to bear a weight of taxation equal to £2 out of every £16 he earns to cover the expenses incurred by the colony in the introduction of those who are brought into the labour market to compete with him. It is even asserted that he is frequently driven from his native island to seek employment elsewhere, while the coolie remains behind to fill his place.

AFFAIRS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.—In a letter dated Victoria, June 10, we read:—"The aspect of affairs in British Columbia has not improved during the last few weeks. Although all the reports of the richness of the country and of the high earnings of the miners have been confirmed, yet the cost of supplies in the interior, at distances varying from 150 to 400 miles from the coast, whither the miners had incautiously flocked in search of 'richer diggings' than the Lower Fraser afforded, was so high as to consume the greater portion of their earnings. The consequences are that a good many miners have returned to California. There is not the slightest cause for despondency, however. The evidence of the richness of the mines is unimpaired. Mineral wealth, besides gold, abounds; and, classing the two sister colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia together, the soil and climate are good, healthy, and genial; timber, coal, and fish abound without limit, all which require population alone to develop; and, as the country becomes better known to the world, there can be no doubt that its advantage will be availed of. The Imperial Government must do something for this young colony to set it up until it gets rich enough to support itself. Without some help it cannot go on. Neither the proceeds of the land sales, nor of the customs duties, nor of any taxes which can be imposed upon so peculiar and erratic a population as the present is, will suffice for the most necessary exigencies of Government; so the home Government may dismiss the idea of its being 'self-supporting' for the present from its mind, and act accordingly. If the Imperial Government would assist in sending out immigrants from England, or from any other part of Europe, who would become permanent settlers, the colony would very soon support itself, for its vast resources require only to be developed to make it rival Australia; but besides of Californian miners, who leave as soon as they find their pockets, and who will not, if they can help it, contribute to the support of the country or its institutions, are not the most likely to contribute materially to produce this result."

THE DISTURBANCE IN KEYHAM DOCKYARD.—Mr. Burney, a leading shipwright, and an apprentice named Bewley, were taken into custody by the order of Captain Mason, of her Majesty's ship *Cæsar*, for making a disturbance during the flogging of a seaman on board that ship in Keyham Dock. The case having been inquired into by the Admiralty, Mr. Burney has been ordered to be suspended from his work for a week, and Bewley to lose six months of his time, so that he will have to serve six months longer as an apprentice than the ordinary period.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 110.

A SPIRITED DEBATE.

In the House of Commons we never know what a night may bring forth. We go down sometimes expecting a long and interesting debate, when lo! the motion is suddenly withdrawn; and, instead of sitting until after midnight, we are up and away by seven. At other times the "order paper" looks so innocent that we say "There is nothing here to keep us," and we indulge in a hope that we shall speedily be dismissed; but suddenly some speaker arises, introduces a new and disputable topic, and at the moment when we are dreaming of a quiet stroll in the park, or a visit to the Opera, or of dropping in upon a friend just as he is sitting down to dinner, we discover that we are in for a long discussion and a late night. Everything is uncertain in the world, but nothing is so uncertain, surely, as the proceedings of the English House of Commons. On Thursday, the 21st, for example, the programme of the evening seemed simple enough. The first "order" was "Ways and Means," to enable Mr. Gladstone to move in Committee his financial resolutions; the second was "Supply;" and, as no intimation had been whispered that the "resolutions" were to be opposed, it was expected that they would pass *sub silentio*, and that then we should get into "Supply," and have a long, dull night at the "Miscellaneous Estimates." But, on throwing a glance of our experienced eye over the House at five o'clock, we had at once our suspicions raised that something would turn up to disappoint our expectations. The Ministerial bench was full. On the Opposition side all the ex-Ministers had mustered, and below the gangway, on the Government side of the House, sat Bright and Cobden, and, further, Bright had an ominous-looking paper in his hand, which appeared very much like notes of a speech, and soon our suspicions were confirmed, for when the clerk had called out the first order—"Ways and Means," and Mr. Gladstone had taken off his hat, and muttered "that Mr. Speaker do leave the chair," Mr. Disraeli arose, and by the manner of his rising, and by the tone of the first sentence of his exordium, we knew that he meant to do battle.

MR. DISRAELI.

Every one knows on his rising when Mr. Disraeli means to make a long speech. When he only intends to offer a few interjectory remarks he leans over the table, speaks in a low tone to the gentlemen opposite, and shows by his manner of standing and speaking that he intends soon to sit down. But when he rises for an oration he starts bolt upright at once, lays his notes on the official box before him, steps a pace backwards, pulls down his waistcoat, brings his arms into position, and waits until due silence is secured. Mr. Disraeli's office on this occasion was to defend his financial operation, and in some degree the foreign policy of the late Government. When the right honourable gentleman delivered his financial statement in 1858 he made all things fair and square upon paper. He estimated the revenue in round numbers at £64,000,000, the actual receipts were £65,500,000; and yet when he left office there was a deficiency of about £5,000,000, and he naturally enough wished to show to the country how this occurred, and we venture to say that he did this with complete success. The estimate of the revenue, so far from being too sanguine, had been exceeded, and his estimate of the expenditure would have been correct but for the disturbing influence of the war, and the consequent necessity for a large increase in the army and navy expenditure. This first part of Mr. Disraeli's speech, though able and successful, was of course somewhat dull, for who can be eloquent in dealing with figures? The House, however, listened with due gravity, and, on the whole, was satisfied, though it was not excited to cheers; but when he came to the latter part of his speech, in which he touched upon foreign policy, he was all himself again, brought down loud cheers from his party, and applause from many of his opponents, and managed to touch a chord, when he advised a closer amity with France, that we may reduce our armaments, and thus terminate "this disastrous and wild expenditure," that did not cease to vibrate during the whole of the debate.

HIS SARCASTIC.

But the most noticeable feature in Mr. Disraeli's speech was the fine vein of ironic sarcasm which ran through the latter part. Mr. Disraeli is nothing unless he be sarcastic. Sometimes his sarcasm is blunt and somewhat coarse, but here it was as fine and delicate as a razor's edge. The late Government had been taunted with being the friends of Austria, and with having no sympathy or friendship with France. "We have been told," said he, "that it was entirely from the absence of some of those distinguished statesmen from the bench opposite which they now so pre-eminently adorn (!) that the war broke out at all. Had they been there it is well known that the Emperor of the French would never have taken a single step without consulting them." &c., &c. And then he went on to intimate that now they were in power they had a fine opportunity to exercise their influence, and he exhorted them earnestly to exert it to induce the Emperor to reduce his armaments, that we may reduce ours. The Opposition saw, appreciated, and cheered lustily this irony, and it seemed also to take the fancy of the gentlemen below the gangway on the other side, for they also joined in the cheers.

HIS COUNTENANCE.

We were curious to observe closely Mr. Disraeli's countenance when he was thus speaking, to see if there were there any signs of feeling; but we saw, as usual, none. Mr. Disraeli's face, to those who are at some distance, and in most cases even to those who are near him, is simply the most unimpassioned countenance that ever stood upon the shoulders of a man. At a distance you can see no more expression than you would upon the face of an automaton, it is so utterly emotionless and inexpressive. In his deep-set eyes not a twinkle is discernible, nor is there the slightest movement about the lips, excepting that which is necessary to expel the words. When you are close to him you may occasionally fancy that you discern a faint radiance in his eyes; and when his sarcasm is more than uncommonly biting there is a slight sardonic movement in the upper lip; but these signs are at no time more than faintly discernible. It is not a nice countenance to contemplate. It is not English, open, attractive. We could never fancy children being attracted by it. The face of a man ought to be—and would always be if he would let it—the index of the nature within. It should light up when he is joyful, flash when he is angry, plainly speak of sorrow when he is in distress, and writhe when he is in pain. Nature intended it to do all this; but it may be said that nature has, probably, denied to Mr. Disraeli this power. We don't believe it. Thirty years ago, when Mr. Disraeli stood upon the hustings at Wycombe, as a "young and curly" aspirant to Parliamentary honours, we may rely upon it his face was not the dull and passionless surface that it is now. Young, ardent, passionate, and hopeful, he let it show what he felt, and permitted it, by its varied expression, to give force to his fervid words. But a long course of official caution and reserve has hardened his features and destroyed their natural flexibility. To keep the muscles of our body flexible we must use them; by discontinuing to use them we lose their power.

MR. GLADSTONE.

Very different was the appearance of the Chancellor of the Exchequer when he leaped from his seat to reply to his predecessor. He was evidently excited; and in countenance, manner, and bearing he showed his excitement. Mr. Bright, by watching his opportunity, succeeded in getting first upon his legs, and must "have caught the eye of the Speaker" first. But this phrase has a technical meaning when it is said that "Mr. So-and-so first caught the Speaker." It is not understood that it was literally so, but rather that Mr. So-and-so was the man whom the Speaker wished to address the House. Generally, the first that rises gets precedence; but when a Cabinet Minister rises Mr. Speaker calls upon him in preference to any other. There were loud cries, and long continued, for Mr. Bright, and for a time Mr. Bright stood his ground. But Mr. Gladstone, in a somewhat defiant manner, kept his position. He had been called upon by the Speaker, and he maintained his right against all claimants, and soon the clamour weakened, and at length died away. It has been noticeable that Mr. Gladstone has spoken with more energy and excite-

ment since he has been in office; and, being more excited, he has been more concise and less diffusive. On the subject of the Roman Catholic claims he broke forth, in answer to a speech from Mr. Whiteside, like a tornado; and, though he spoke for not more than twenty minutes, he compressed into his speech such forcible arguments, such pregnant facts, and such withering sarcasm, that he made the Attorney-General for Ireland writhe in his seat. And, on opening his Budget, it was a subject of general remark how closely the Chancellor stuck to his subject, and how plain, and lucid, and concise he was in his statements. We know not that we ever listened to a more masterly statement. On former similar occasions Mr. Gladstone has spoken for four hours and more, but on this he only occupied two, and on the occasion in question he was equally forcible and concise. Some of his sentences were epigrammatic in their terseness. But the speech of the evening was that delivered by

MR. BRIGHT.

It was known to Mr. Bright's friends that he had a speech on the anvil, and it was expected that it would be a great one, though we know not whether it was understood that he would launch it that night. We have read the speech in the morning papers. The *Times* reports it best, but only a faint idea can be formed from reading of the force and power with which it was delivered, nor of its effect upon the House. But, nevertheless, we, who have often heard Mr. Bright, and have reflected carefully upon his speaking, have come to the conclusion that Mr. Bright owes more of his power in the House to his matter than to his manner. He is a capital speaker, no doubt. His action is simple and unaffected; his voice is good; his language is pure and forcible, but his greatest power in the House lies not there. In the House of Commons there is a conventional mode of treating all subjects which come before it. Very few speakers seem to us to speak *ex animo*. Few of them seem to tread firmly, as if they felt the solid earth under them, but delicately, timidly, and apologetically, as if they were afraid of offending against some established conventionalism or shocking some prejudice. But when Mr. Bright arises, and after you have listened to a few sentences, you feel that you have a manly Englishman before you, one who believes earnestly that he has got something to say and is determined to say it, let who will be offended or who will be pleased. A Martin Luther-like man, who would go to Worms "were all the tiles on the Houses devils." He never gets about a subject and about it, but shears through every intervening obstacle of prejudice, and conventionalism, and etiquette, right to the heart of the matter at once. Take his speech on the occasion in question; read it carefully, and you will at once see what he means. "Oh, yes, you must have the income tax, I know; you cannot do without it; but it is an odious tax. And why is it odious? Because it is a tax upon property? No; but because it is unjustly levied. You farmers, for instance, why should not you pay as much on your incomes as others do on theirs? And then there's the succession duty, can anything be more unjust than that? There was a gentleman lately who had a landed estate, worth £32,000, left him by a person who was no relative. Now, if this had been left in money the duty would have been £3200, but being a landed estate the duty was only £700. Is that just? Is it consistent with fairness?—is it consistent with our personal honour?—for, after all, that comes into the question—is it consistent with our duty to society that we should take the class of property the most select, attracting towards it many social and practical advantages, having in it the most certain means of accumulation and improvement?—is it fair, I say, that we should take this property and charge it only £700; whilst on another description of property, that is not worth a bit more in the market, we should charge £3200?" Now, this is going to the heart of the matter; and this is a fair specimen of the manner in which Mr. Bright treats all subjects which come before him in the House. As he and Mr. Cobden did in the Corn-law war, so he does now—dashing through all the outworks right up to the citadel, and demanding its surrender. Our space is running short, but we must just notice the peroration of this remarkable speech, and we are more anxious to do so because in several papers it is wrongly given:—"I pray," said the hon. gentleman, "that there may soon come a time when the Government of this country may take such steps as I have indicated for the bringing about a state of things between France and England which shall unite these two great nations in a bond of permanent amity, and show that eighteen hundred years of the profession of Christian doctrine is at length to be compensated by something like Christian practice." In a report which lies before me the word profession is left out, and for "compensated" the reporter has written "consummated," by which change a neat little bit of satire is wholly spoiled. The hon. gentleman, we need hardly say, resumed his seat amidst a storm of cheers. After him came Lord John, who, however, spoke but little; and Lord Palmerston, who spoke long, but with not much effect. Indeed, the noble Lord's speaking days are passed. Every one must have noticed a change in his Lordship this Session: that slow but sure sleuth-hound, old age, has got him in wind at last, if not in grasp.

SAM SLICK UPON HIS LEGS.

ON Monday last Mr. Judge Haliburton made his maiden speech. When he arose the House was hushed to silence in a moment, but his speech was not a success, and it is clear now that Mr. Haliburton, racy writer as he is, is no orator. The characteristic of Mr. Haliburton's works is rollicking fun and humour, but there was nothing of this sort in his speech. It was just such a speech as any country gentleman might have made. The appearance of Mr. Haliburton is that of a sturdy old gentleman farmer, utterly unlike what from reading his works you would imagine him to be. He is according to Dod, only sixty-three years old, but he looks older. We should from his appearance take him to be at least seventy.

NEWS FROM SEBASTOPOL.—The mercantile barque *Westbrook* left Sebastopol on the 1st of March with a cargo consisting chiefly of bones [what bones are these?], and forty-six pieces of cannon, English, French, and Russian. The captain says that, between Sebastopol and Balaklava, the country presents a most devastated appearance, diversified only by the mounds raised here and there over some fallen warrior. Balaklava itself he describes as a vast Golgotha, where small heaps of stones are the only marks of distinction separating the resting-place of the officer from that of his subordinate. The immense extent of ground covered by the besieging armies of two great nations is now completely deserted, even the two or three houses occupied by some of the Generals being uninhabited. The ravages of war are also stamped in equally indelible characters on the city of Sebastopol itself. Commerce is stagnant, its streets are almost deserted, and the wretched inhabitants of the smaller houses, which alone seem to be generally occupied, are in a most destitute state. All that can be seen of the once mighty Malakoff may not inaptly be compared to a "mountain capsize"; the dockyard, instead of its former life and activity, resembles a mass of rocks; and those of the Government magazines which have not already tumbled in pieces appear as if they were about to do so. The American contractor was busy in his efforts to raise the sunken fleet of Russia, and at the time Capt. Bonello left had succeeded with a few of the smaller ships.

OUR DEFENCES AT GIBRALTAR.—The semi-official *Correspondencia Autografa* (Spanish journal) has the following:—"At Gibraltar the English are mounting batteries, not only, as has been stated, in the forts, but even in the midst of the streets. The day on which the sentinel of the Straits shall light his first match this place will be transformed into a volcano of gunpowder and ball. Our forts of Santa Barbara and San Felipe, destroyed by the English in the War of Independence, under the pretext that the French troops might take possession of them, are now only heaps of ruins, and the bronze artillery with which they were armed is still in the hands of the English. The English will not allow these fortifications to be restored, and yet we permit them to enroach every day, by constructing barracks on neutral ground, and by taking the stone destined for their walls from the quarries of San Roque."

ANTIDOTE TO STRYCHNINE.—Dr. Bewley, wishing to kill a mangy cur, and having read, in Magendie's "Report on Strychnia," that the sixth part of a grain will kill the largest dog, determined to make sure of this very little animal by giving it about half a grain. But either Magendie's statement was incorrect or the drug was adulterated, for at the end of ten minutes the dog, though suffering frightfully, was not dead. Dr. Bewley resolved to put him out of his misery at once, and accordingly mixed half a drachm of prussic acid with a little milk, and put it under the dog's snout. He lapped the milk with avidity, and, in less than a minute, vomited, got upon his legs, ran away, and recovered.—*Literary Gazette*.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 22.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE ITALIAN QUESTION.

Lord NORMANBY asked her Majesty's Government if they had received any information regarding the assertion in the speech of the Emperor of the French "that the Italian Sovereigns had been persuaded of the necessity of introducing salutary reforms;" and also if any exceptions were to be made in the restoration of the Italian Sovereigns?

Lord GRANVILLE was unable to give any detailed information on the subject.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF CANADA.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE, in moving the second reading of the Speaker of the Legislative Council (Canada) Bill, said that the object of the bill was to permit the Council to elect its own Speaker, instead of that functionary being appointed by the Crown.

After a very short conversation the bill was read a second time.

BRITISH AMERICA.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE moved the second reading of the North-Western Territories (British America) Bill, and informed the House that the purpose of the measure was to appoint magistrates to secure public order, and to lay down rules for the better regulation of trade between the whites and Indians, with the view of preventing oppression.

The bill was read a second time.

THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

Lord CLANRICARDE asked her Majesty's Government what decision had been announced to the various persons who had sent tenders to the Admiralty on the 1st of July for the conveyance of mails to Australia via Panama, or whether her Majesty's Government had abandoned the intention of establishing the line of mail steamers contemplated in the advertisement.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said that a contract was on the point of being signed, but there was some slight discussion as to the station at which the steamships were to stop.

After a few remarks from Lord Stanley of Alderley, Granville, Redesdale, and Clanricarde, the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE PEACE.

In reply to Mr. Horsman, Lord J. RUSSELL said the French Government had communicated to that of her Majesty the preliminaries of the peace concluded with Austria, which were not then in a state to be laid before the House.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Sir G. GREY, in reply to Mr. Mellor, said it was not the intention of the Government to introduce any measure to regulate the appointment of justices of the peace. At the same time, he thought nothing could be more inconvenient than the attempt to balance parties on the Bench without reference to numbers.

OUR NEIGHBOURS.

Mr. B. COCHRANE, in withdrawing a notice of a question he had intended to put to Lord J. Russell on the subject of certain recent despatches between Lord John Russell, Lord Cowley, and Sir J. Hudson, made some reflections (to which the House listened very unwillingly) upon what he characterised as a most violent attack upon this country in the *Journal des Debats*.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

Mr. CONINGHAM moved a resolution that the system of management which now exists at the National Gallery is highly unsatisfactory, and detrimental to the public service. He appealed to facts, as well as testimonies, including that of Sir Charles Eastlake himself, in support of the opinion he had embodied in the resolution. The whole system of management of the Gallery, he said, was bad; although the destruction of pictures by cleaning had been stopped, he wanted to put a stop to the system of purchasing pictures.

The motion, having no seconder, fell to the ground.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

Mr. HENNESSY called attention to the failure of mixed education in Ireland, giving details of facts from which he deduced the conclusion that the failure was as apparent in the colleges as in the national schools, contending that the system of education in the national schools tended to denationalise the children.

Mr. WHITESIDE pointed out the causes which had disappointed the intentions of those who had designed the national system of education in Ireland, and which, he believed, would continue to frustrate the object, the system of the National Board not being acceptable to the people. A united system of education could never be had, but we might have a national system acceptable to all classes.

Mr. BUXTON did not agree that the national system had been a failure. Lord NAAS thought that the national system had conferred a great benefit upon Ireland, and if it were touched at all, it should be touched with a delicate hand. He had been anxious, he said, that the united system should be carried out.

Mr. CARDWELL stated his views upon this subject. He did not agree that the colleges had been a failure, although they might not have fully succeeded. As to the larger question, relating to the national system of education, if that system be compared with what existed before 1830, and looking at the number of schools and of scholars, and its practical result in books, and schools, and admirable training, could it be said to be a failure? The system of mixed education had not failed so entirely as many supposed; and he did not hold the primary principle of the national system to be that of a mixed education; the leading principle from the beginning had been non-interference with the religious opinions of the people. It would, he remarked, be presumptuous in him to say more than that the Government had the most serious desire to give the fullest consideration to every proposal, from whatever quarter it might come, that would increase the efficiency of the national system while maintaining the integrity of its principles.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of Supply upon the remaining Civil Service Estimates and Civil Contingencies.

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means was brought up and agreed to.

ELECTION PETITIONS—NORWICH.

Mr. E. JAMES moved an instruction to the General Committee of Elections to suspend their proceedings in the matter of the petition of electors of Norwich, presented on the 17th of June, against the return of Mr. H. F. Schneider and Viscount Bury, until the examiner of recognisances had reported on three other petitions, subsequently presented to the House, against the return of Viscount Bury, and which subsequent petitions relate to the same election as the petition presented against the return of Mr. Schneider and Viscount Bury on the 17th of June. He submitted that, according to the proper construction of the statute, all the petitions should be tried by the same Committee, otherwise certain anomalies might arise.

Sir F. BARKING, the chairman, said the Committee, in the exercise of their discretion, and according to their construction of the Act, had declined this application, and he thought it the wisest course for the House not to overrule the discretion of the Committee in this matter.

Sir G. GREY considered that the House had no power to instruct the Committee acting under an Act of Parliament.

After a short discussion, in which Mr. Ayrton, Sir W. Miles, Mr. Deasy, and Mr. Mellor took part, the motion was negatived.

Some further business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, JULY 25.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

LORD LYNCHBURST AND MR. BRIGHT.

Lord LYNCHBURST repelled the charges which had been made against him as an hon. member of the House of Commons (Mr. Bright), backed by a Lord, in reference to the remarks he had made on the national decorations. He had been charged with being an "old man," an "aged Peer." This he pleaded guilty, and at the same time he could but admire the earnestness, so keen, so bitter, and so creditable to the taste and talents of the hon. member who had made so extraordinary a discovery. As the charge of making remarks calculated to wound the susceptibility of neighbouring nations, nothing was further from his intention, which was only to arouse this country to the necessity of putting its defenses in an efficient state. It might be the policy of some private individuals, when checked was smitten, to turn the other cheek to the smiter, but such was not his feelings, nor ought it to be that of a great nation. He concluded his explanations by asking the Duke of Somerset whether he was aware that the French fleet was being armed with rifled cannon? and if it were true that only 100 rifled cannon could be supplied this year, and 200 the next, whether her Majesty's fleet?

The Duke of SOMERSET had heard that the French fleet was being provided with rifled cannon, and admitted that the rifled cannon for the armament of the fleet would not be ready for some time. He did not think it expedient at the present time to enter into a discussion of what was being done in our arsenals and dockyards. The subject then dropped.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

Lord BROUGHAM, in calling the attention of the House to the state of national education, gave a sketch of the progress made in this important subject during the last forty years. He showed the vast increase in the number of day and Sunday schools, and of the numbers who attended them, since 1818, and proceeded to refer to a plan of secular education which he had formerly advocated. The difficulties of the question were much increased by religious differences, but he would prefer education even under the Pope of Rome to no education at all. He particularly urged the neces-

sity of providing well-educated schoolmistresses, as the well-being of so large a class of the female population depended upon them. He concluded by proposing that the Committee of the Privy Council should inspect the middle-class schools throughout the country.

The Bishop of LINCOLN thought the plan of inspecting middle-class schools would be productive of much advantage.

Lord GRANVILLE said he was very unwilling, considering the enormous amount of work already imposed on the Committee of the Privy Council, to place upon them the additional labour of inspecting middle-class schools. The House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FLOODING IN THE NAVY.

Mr. LIDDELL, premising that certain exaggerated statements in the public journals relative to disturbances alleged to have taken place on board her Majesty's ships *Liffey*, *Cesar*, and *Hero*, had created some degree of anxiety, inquired whether there was any truth in them, and, if so, what steps had been taken by the Admiralty?

Lord C. PAGET read the reports made by the Commanders of the *Liffey* and *Hero*, the only ships where disturbances had occurred, whence it appeared that they were of a very slight and unimportant character.

Some discussion ensued, in which the question of corporal punishment in the navy was raised.

The House then went into a Committee of Supply upon the Civil Service Estimates and Civil Contingencies.

OUR DEFENCES AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Mr. ADDERLEY called attention to the military defenses of the colonies, England, he said, had given to all her colonies self-government, and had abrogated such of her commercial laws as conflicted with their interests. The expenditure for the colonies was £3,500,000 a year, of which the colonies themselves did not furnish one-tenth. Of the troops maintained in the colonies only one-fourth consisted of colonial forces—namely, militia or police. The consequence was that the defence of the colonies against foreign aggression was very insecure; and Queen's troops, while the supply to the colonies operated as a drain upon the mother country, did not furnish the best force for their defence. His opinion was that the colonies should bear a certain share of our military and naval expenditure, and make provision for their defence from their own resources. He inquired whether the Government intended to take this subject into serious consideration?

Lord A. CHURCHILL concurred with Mr. Adderley that the colonies might come forward and provide a local militia for their own defence.

After some remarks by Mr. Marsh, Sir DE LACY EVANS moved a resolution:—"That, taking into consideration the relations existing between some of the great military Powers of the Continent, it is advisable that a Commission be appointed, consisting of civilians and military and naval officers, to inquire into and collect information concerning the present position of our national defenses; to ascertain what improvements may be made therein, in order to ensure the utmost efficiency, combined with economy, and to report thereon to her Majesty's Government."

Mr. H. D. SEYMOUR called attention to the undefended state of the coast between Weymouth and the Needles.

Mr. S. HERBERT, in reply to Mr. Adderley, after remarking that nothing could be more unreasonable and capricious than the proportions of their military expenditure paid by different colonies, observed that if there had been only one party to the bargain it would be easy to lay down some principle as to the proportion of expenditure to be borne by the colonies; but this must be a matter of negotiation with each colony, and he was not very sanguine as to the practicability of making any effectual inroad into the existing system. The subject, however, was under investigation, in order to place the matter upon a more satisfactory footing. In answer to Mr. Seymour, he observed that the subject had not escaped the notice of the Government, and there had been a minute examination of the coast, but he was afraid it was impossible to fortify every part of the coast, and attention must be paid, in the first instance, to the great ports and arsenals, which were not in the state he could wish. With respect to the resolution moved by Sir De Lacy Evans, he observed that his attention had been turned to the subject from the time he came into office, and the Government had come to the conclusion to appoint a Commission like that suggested to consider the plans laid before them for carrying on and completing the great works of defence to which he had referred.

Mr. HALIBURTON, as an Anglo-American, considered that Canada was quite capable of its own defence; "but if you withdraw your troops and your fleet," he said, "let us have due notice, and give us our independence."

Mr. HORSMAN expressed his satisfaction at the assent of the Government to the appointment of a Commission.

Mr. C. FORSTER said the Government were quite alive to the views indicated by Mr. Adderley, but the remarks of Mr. Haliburton showed that there was another side of the question which deserved to be considered.

Lord PALMERSTON said the question was of very great importance; but he hoped Sir De Lacy Evans would be satisfied with the statement made by Mr. S. Herbert. He could not agree that the Commission should go into a wide range of inquiry, and examine matters not proper for a Commission. The object of the Commission would be to inquire as to the permanent works for dockyards and arsenals, which would not vary from year to year, whereas the number and composition of our military force and other matters varied according to the circumstances of the country, and for these the Government were responsible.

Mr. AYRTON said the Commission which the Government proposed to grant would not in the least meet the object of Sir De Lacy Evans, which was to inquire into the whole system and minimum means of our ordinary defence, naval and military, against any sudden aggression.

The motion of Sir De Lacy Evans was negatived, and the House went into Committee of Supply upon the Civil Service Estimates and Civil Contingencies.

TUESDAY, JULY 26.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

SPIRITUAL DESTITUTION.

The Bishop of LONDON presented petitions from different parts of the country, and one in particular from the London Diocesan Church-building Society, upon the spiritual destitution of the metropolis and of the large manufacturing towns, and his Lordship drew the attention of the House to the importance of appointing a separate department in the Ecclesiastical Commission for church-building purposes, complained of the inadequacy of the accommodation provided by the Commission in places where large funds were placed in their hands, and suggested that unnecessary difficulties were thrown in the way of obtaining sites for churches by the law of mortmain. He was sorry to say that comprehensive measures to render the Church more efficient were never proposed. At the same time, he could not pass over without praise the efforts made by private individuals to extend the blessings of the Gospel by building churches.

Lord CHICHESTER made some remarks on the difficulty of conveying sites for the erection of churches, and defended the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

Lord EBRURY made a few remarks.

The Bishop of OXFORD pressed this question on the House as one of the greatest importance, and urged the Government to bring in a bill this Session on the subject.

After a few words from Lord Redesdale, Lord GRANVILLE said that the Government could not pledge themselves to introduce a bill on the subject at the present late period of the Session.

The Speaker of the Legislative Council (Canada) Bill, the North-Western Territories (British America) Bill, and the Public Health Bill were read a third time and passed.

The House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CHURCH RATES.

Sir J. TRELAWAY moved that the House do resolve itself into a Committee upon the Church-rates Abolition Bill.

Mr. NEWDEGATE moved, as an amendment, a resolution that the House would this day resolve itself into a Committee to consider the propriety of establishing, in lieu of church rates, a charge to be levied upon the occupiers of land, in lieu of church rates, to be levied upon the county rate at an uniform rate of poundage, the occupier being in all cases entitled to deduct from his rent the amount of the charge levied on his occupation, to be paid to the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, who shall be empowered to administer the same for the purposes of church rates. He did not propose, he said, to alter one word of the bill; he accepted the decision of the House that church rates shall be abolished, and he proposed this charge, at the rate of 2d. in the pound, as a substitute that would satisfy conscientious scruples, and obviate the objections made to church rates. Where these rates had been abolished let the abolition, he said, be sanctioned; but let not this limit be exceeded, and the whole burden be cast upon the voluntary system.

Mr. DODSON opposed the resolution.

Lord HENLEY considered the remedy suggested by Mr. Newdegate to be worse than the disease he proposed to cure.

Sir J. TRELAWAY urged various objections to the resolution, and Sir W. FAKUHAIR, though opposed to the abolition of church rates without a substitute, could not support Mr. Newdegate's proposition.

Upon a division, the amendment was negatived by 191 to 99, and the House went into Committee upon the Bill, but little progress was made in the clauses when the Chairman left the chair.

The Universities (Scotland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

The House was counted out at six o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

Sir C. NAPIER renewed his motion for an address to her Majesty to appoint a Commission to inquire into the management of Greenwich Hospital.

Mr. WHITREAD opposed the motion. If, during the autumn, after the Government had had an opportunity of thoroughly investigating it, they found themselves unable to deal with the subject, then would be the time, he said, to move for a Royal Commission.

After a short discussion the House divided, when Sir C. Napier's motion was negatived by 142 to 82.

SUPPLY—THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

The House then went into a Committee of Supply upon the remaining Civil Service Estimates and Civil Contingencies, one item of which, the vote of £13,985 for the National Gallery, provoked a long and animated discussion, embracing the whole management of the gallery, and the merits of Sir C. Eastlake, and of the pictures purchased for the gallery. The Committee divided upon a motion of Mr. Coningham to reduce the vote by £650, charged as travelling expenses, which motion was negatived by 171 to 40; and again, upon a motion of Mr. Spooner to reduce the vote by £10,000 for purchasing pictures, this motion being likewise negatived by 136 to 64.

Other business having been disposed of, the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, JULY 28.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE DIVORCE COURT BILL.

This bill went into Committee; and, on the third clause being proposed, The Earl of WICKLOW moved as an amendment that persons residing in Ireland should have the privilege of applying to this Court.

After some discussion a division took place, when the amendment was carried by a majority of 26 to 9.

After considerable discussion the various clauses were agreed to, and the bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SUPPLY.

The early sitting was entirely occupied in discussing the Estimates in Committee of Supply.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Lord J. RUSSELL brought forward the statement of which he had given notice relative to the foreign affairs of the country. He was glad to see in the *Monitor* of that day a statement to the effect that the Emperor of the French was about to place his land and sea forces on a peace footing. He would not go into a detail of recent events. It would be enough to say that the peace concluded at Villafranca was sudden and unexpected. Austria had since said that the terms of peace suggested to her by the neutral Powers were far worse than those which she obtained from the Emperor of the French. He had to observe that the neutral Powers had had no concert, and therefore could not have agreed upon any terms to be submitted to the belligerents; and, at all events, this country was no party to any such proposition. He believed one great reason, though not the avowed one, was the horror of both parties at the awful slaughter which had taken place; and it was no disparagement to those great Sovereigns to attribute to them the feelings of men. With respect to the treaty of Villafranca, which ceded Lombardy to Sardinia, he did not think it was for this country, which took no part in the war, to comment on or criticise it. Another portion of that treaty, however, related to the future of Italy, for which it proposed a new organisation. It was now proposed that there should be a Congress, to which the neutral Powers would be invited, to consider the details of a peace, the preliminaries of which had been agreed to by the Emperors of France and Austria at Villafranca. It was true that Count Walewski had suggested a meeting at Zurich, but its object was to confer upon all questions in which the affairs of the States of Italy might be connected with the general interests of Europe. There were, however, some matters relative to the new relations of Italy which rendered a preliminary understanding necessary before this country could become a party to the Conference. No precise answer was given to the communication, but it was signified to the French Government, through our Ambassador at Paris, that two things were indispensable to England engaging in such a Congress—one, that they should see the treaty of Zurich, for it would depend upon that treaty whether they would agree to a conference; and the other, that the Emperor of Austria should be a party to it, without which they felt it would be useless. The treaty of Villafranca contained no settlement of the affairs of Italy; it only stated that two great Sovereigns were in favour of a confederation of the Italian States. He was favourable to confederation, but he much doubted if the time was come for such a confederation. The noble Lord then referred to the conflicting materials existing for an Italian confederation; and, with respect to the Grand Dukes of Tuscany and Modena, said he had received no official assurances of the fact, but he had reason to believe that the Emperor of the French would not restore those Sovereigns by force. He did not believe that Austria would interfere to restore them by force, nor would France permit her to do so if she were inclined. He felt there would be great difficulty in carrying the treaty of Villafranca into effect. If the Tuscan people should declare that they could only live happily under any one form of government, it would be impossible for this country to be a party to impose upon them another and a different form. After enumerating some of the difficulties in the way, the noble Lord stated that a confidential agent had been sent to Vienna to settle the basis of a treaty by which the privilege of self-government would be extended to the Italians. He was convinced that an independent Government of the Italian States would be for the welfare of Europe, and it would therefore not be wise to come to a decision that, under no circumstances, would they send to a conference upon a subject so important.

Mr. DISRAELI complained that the noble Lord was most ambiguous with regard to the project submitted to the Emperor of Austria for bringing about a peace. The Emperor of Austria must have received such a project or he would not have stated the fact, and he (Mr. Disraeli) was more anxious on the point because he had heard that a scheme for a settlement had reached the Emperor of Austria through the agency of her Majesty's Government, from which circumstance it would not be unnatural to infer that they approved of the project.

Mr. BOWYER contended that if the Government took any part in the Congress it would do mischief.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Disraeli, said that while the war was in progress the British Government had received from that of France a project of terms on which peace could be concluded, with a wish that it should be conveyed to Austria. The document was sent, with an intimation that it emanated from France and not from England, which refrained from offering any opinion on the subject.

After some observations from Mr. H. Baillie, Mr. M. Milnes, Mr. Whiteside, and Mr. H. Drummond,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER defended the statements of Lord J. Russell and Lord Palmerston, and attributed Mr. Bowyer's objections to a Conference to his fears lest the Government should be enabled to do any good there.

Mr. MACGILLIVRAE warned the Government against any interference in the affairs of Italy, and condemned the conduct of Sardinia as dishonest and flagitious.

After some remarks from Lord Claud Hamilton, Lord John Russell, Lord Lovaine, and Mr. Kinnaird, the matter dropped.

The remaining business was then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON AT SOLFERINO.

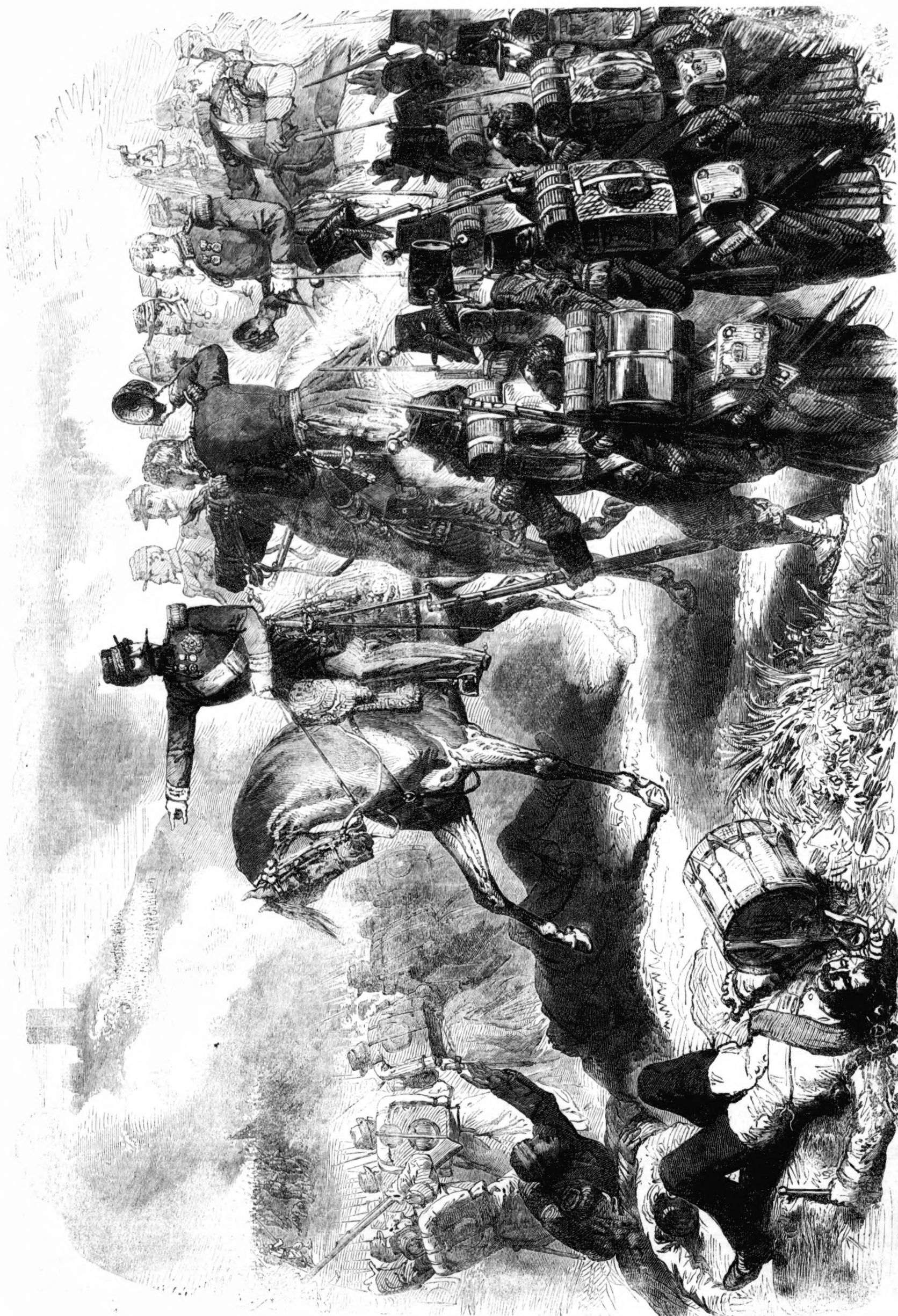
THERE have been many conflicting statements as to the way in which the French Emperor bore himself at Solferino, and as to the amount of danger he incurred. We have seen it largely published that his Imperial Majesty had an epaulet carried away by a round-shot, and that his Staff were stricken down on all sides. As to the latter assertion, two only of the Cent Garde were wounded.

There is no doubt but that the Emperor is a man of great personal courage, and that he would fear to encounter death as little as any of his most valiant soldiers. At the same time he is also a man of great caution, and he well knew what the effect would have been on his army had an accident happened to him. He exposed himself in action as much as any other General commanding-in-chief would have done, and, of course, ran those risks which are inseparable from a battle-field, but no more.

In our Illustration it will be noticed that the Emperor has one of his epaulets missing, and this is the reason: General Auger, who had been mortally wounded by a cannon shot, was brought from the thick of the fight near to the spot where the Emperor stood. His Majesty, wishing to confer some mark of honour on the dying soldier, unbuttoned his own general of division's epaulet and placed it in the wounded man's hand, signifying by this that he raised him to that rank.

The moment chosen by our artist for his sketch is that in which the Emperor orders the voltigeurs of the Guard to storm the position of Solferino, all the other troops having failed in establishing themselves.

Of course, commanded by such a personage, the voltigeurs would have done anything, and, dashing through the storm of bullets with the cry of "Vive l'Empereur!" they drove the Austrians from their stronghold.



THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH AT SOLFERINO.—"NOW THEN, VOLONTÉES, FORWARD, AND WITH THE BAYONET V'SET ALL THAT!"



DOGBERRY'S CHARGE TO THE WATCH.

THE character of Worshipful Master Dogberry is one that has long exercised a singular fascination over our sympathies for which we cannot easily account. We are intensely fond of him, in fact—but why? The police magistrate, as an abstract type, should be an object rather of terror than of affection; and, viewed as a concrete specimen of his order, Master Dogberry falls immeasurably below the level of even Sir Robert Carden. He is ungrammatical, illogical, and unjust. He snubs honest Master Verges (who speaks more terse good sense in a dozen words than Master Dogberry could think in the same number of years) in the most unwarrantable manner. Were Peter his name, Scotland his nation, and knight-hood his civic distinction, Master Dogberry could scarcely "put down" a harmless personage requiring no suppression whatever more insolently and unjustifiably. Yet we like him much. It may be that, at the bottom of his heart, we know him to be a good-natured fellow. We hear him say that "he would not harm a dog, much more a man that has the fear of God in him;" and we believe him when he says so. It may be that we sympathise with him because he "hath had losses. Go to!" It may be simply that we compassionate him for being a ridiculous old fool—such a very inferior person, of course, to our illustrious selves. Or, it is as likely as not that Master Dogberry holds his confessedly exalted place in our esteem from being associated in our recollection with the personality of a delightful actor, of whom it is to be feared the world has seen the last in his professional capacity—Robert Keeley by name. Why do they pay these actors so well as to encourage them in premature dreams of old age and retirement before we have half done with them? Whenever we meet Keeley himself (as we do frequently) sunning himself about the squares and lanes of Brompton, and looking about half the age that theatrical registers induce us to believe he must be, we feel disposed to arrest him with the questions, "Why are you not rehearsing Dogberry, Sir, or looking out your wig for Tony Lumpkin, or going over your part of Sir Andrew Aguecheek? Who is there to play those characters for us now that you have so unjustifiably knocked off work at this comparatively early hour of the evening?" But we never put the questions, fearing that Mr. Keeley might give us an evasive answer.

Mr. Marks, in his admirably-composed and truly Shakspearean picture of "Dogberry's Charge to the Watch" (already noticed in these columns, in our criticism of the Royal Academy, and of which we, this week, publish an Engraving), has ingeniously combined a recollection of the only perfect representative of Dogberry, the young or the middle-aged playgoer has had the opportunity of witnessing with a foreshadowing of that truly great comedian's only probable successor in the part. Our artist's Dogberry is what Keeley was and what Robson may be. But Robson must be older, calmer, and more subdued, before he can hope to rival Keeley's magnificently pompous exit, carried off with the words—"If anything of importance happens, call up me!"

Mr. Marks is one of the most promising of our young painters, who aspires to humour as a form of expression—we may say the most promising. He is intensely comic and observant, but a careful draughtsman and good colourist withal. At present we are content to let him exercise himself for our amusement by his quaint mediæval illustrations—Shakspearean or otherwise. But in the course of a year or two we shall expect him to employ his great faculties and attainments on subjects of more vital latter-day importance. We are dreadfully in want of a Hogarth, and Mr. Marks is the nearest possible approach to such a desirable character we are able to indicate.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1859.

THE CHANNEL SQUADRON.

THERE is something cheerful in the periodical announcements of the movements of the Channel squadron now becoming common in our morning journals. We feel that sort of satisfaction in perusing them which the timid Londoner feels when, waking at night, he hears the well-known and staid tread of the policeman. Their names and descriptions roll trippingly from the tongue—"H.M.S. *Royal Albert*, 121; H.M.S. *Algiers*, 91; H.M.S. *Hero*, 91," &c.—much as "my friend Lord ———" name and title do from the lips of an ambitious and prosperous Mr. Podger.

We must not, however, be contented with our achievements too soon. We have not vessels enough yet, and those we have are still insufficiently manned, and only entering on the period of real discipline. We know from Sir Charles Napier how much was hollow in the showy Baltic fleets which charmed the public during the Russian war. The fact is that, like the spider, we have always our work to begin over again in this department. Every few years we raise a fleet, and just as it has got into proper order we put it down again. The ships are sent into dock, the officers go ashore, and the seamen are scattered over all the world. In the present Channel squadron there must be many men who have never had a man-of-war training, and consequently know nothing of gunnery—not to mention that it takes long to establish that *unity* in a crew which is so important to the well-being of a ship. The larger unity of a squadron is equally necessary to establish, and can only come from continuous cruising in company under the guidance of one mind, and under the inspiration of a common rivalry in our great object.

The public will not grudge the seamen their "liberty," as they call their occasional holidays, and the absence of which provoked discontent in one or two vessels some time ago. Indeed, it is better for the condition of the men in every way that they should have recreation and change pretty frequently than that they should be let loose at long intervals for frenzied bursts of debauchery. Much has been done to *civilise* their life of late years, and perhaps the danger now is rather of over-interference

with their amusements and habits. Certainly severity is much less common than it was, and this is true in the matter of flogging as in other matters of discipline. We were glad to see the actual remonstrances on the subject of excessive flogging made in the House of Commons in the late naval debates. Public opinion ought to be brought to bear in this case on the profession, which brings it to bear (in turn) upon its own members. It is significant how much the amount of punishment varies in different ships, showing that it must be connected with the question of the talent and temper for government possessed by different men. Of course we don't forget that a Captain may light on a worse crew than his neighbours, and that a few black sheep in a vessel, by requiring repeated punishment, may cause a return which looks as if the ship's company had been flogged periodically all round. Yet, on the whole, the greater the fool the more the flogging is, we think, a safe standard to apply to our Captains; and the more widely this is understood the better.

While anxious that the men of the squadron should get as much pleasure as possible, we trust that the squadron will, notwithstanding, be kept a great deal at sea. There is no occasion for it to be under steam always, nor to be a great distance from port. But it is of first-rate importance, too, in *squadron evolutions*. A standing complaint with naval writers is, that we have lately neglected this art, and that the French have excelled us in zeal for its practice and study. Nelson observed of the French fleet that it was "a pretty fiddle, but that Villeneuve did not know how to play on it." We wonder how many of our present Admirals can play a big violin of the kind? Those who can must be wonderful fellows, for they have had little enough practice of late years.

That the French Emperor should be grumbling through the *Moniteur* at our naval activity is a hypocrisy as it stands, and would be an impertinence were it sincere. Nothing should induce us, as Sir Charles Napier has often urged, to give up a good Channel squadron once successfully formed; and when the present one is complete we must stick to it. A Channel squadron is not a defence only; it is a school; it might be made the means of drilling and educating our whole body of men-of-war seamen, and be itself perpetually supplied by a stream of good men going through it. Who will perfect such a plan for us?

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

OUR COURT WENT INTO MOURNING on Thursday for the Queen of Portugal. The ceremony is to conclude on Thursday, August 11.

THE PRINCE CONSORT, accompanied by Prince Alfred and Prince Arthur, paid a visit of inspection at Portland on Saturday.

PRINCE ALFRED has returned from his travels as a midshipman. He arrived at Dover on Wednesday week, and set out the next day for Osborne.

THE FUNERAL OF THE QUEEN OF PORTUGAL took place on the 20th. A great number of the people of Lisbon voluntarily put on mourning, and the courts have been closed for eight days.

A MAN, aged 80 years, was married at Killarney on the 18th inst. to a woman only 25 years old. She is blind. The bridegroom is lame and cannot go without the aid of a crutch.

THE DEVONPORT FORTIFICATIONS, resumed lately, have been suddenly abandoned, owing to an order from head-quarters.

MR. HOME, the famous medium (says the *Medical Times*), has lately rather put his foot into it at Paris. At one of his sances one of the guests, a particularly active individual, made a sudden grab at the spirit, which was tickling his leg, and, behold! he found Mr. Home's foot in his hand.

ANOTHER ATTRACTION has been added to the Crystal Palace in the opening of a billiard-room in the upper part of the tower which terminates the railway colonnade. The room is admirably fitted up, and contains four excellent tables.

THE SORREY TO MR. CORBEN has been definitively fixed for the 17th of August. Mr. Bright will attend. Upwards of 1000 tickets have already been applied for.

SOME OF THE PAINTINGS in the Museum at Naples were injured by rifle balls during the recent military revolt. The fine statue of Nero, found among the ruins of Herculaneum, was likewise damaged by a shot.

A CABINET OF BOOKS has been purchased by the non-electors of the borough of Tynemouth for presentation to Mr. W. S. Lindsay, M.P.

IN THE PUNJAB, last year, five men, one woman, and 293 children were killed, and two men, four women, and 166 children injured, by wild animals. Of these animals—tigers, leopards, bears, wolves, and hyenas—834 were destroyed last year.

LORD BROUGHAM AND THE DUKE OF BUCCHLEUCH will be nominated for the office of Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh. The election, which takes place in October, is by the General Council of the University, the register of which, we understand, already numbers above three hundred members.

THE DATE OF THE MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION at Aberdeen is fixed for the 14th of September, when the Prince Consort, the president for the year, will deliver the opening address. Among other celebrated persons whose attendance at the meeting is expected, Professor Agassiz is mentioned.

THE SALE OF WORDSWORTH'S LIBRARY, comprising nearly 3000 volumes in every class of literature, took place on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of last week, at Preston. The attendance was good, and many of the books fetched high prices.

THE IRON CROWN OF THE OLD LOMBARD KINGS is not to go with the kingdom. The Vienna journals declare that it is to be placed in the collection of crown jewels of the empire at Vienna.

THE HON. RUFUS CHOATE, of Massachusetts, one of the most distinguished members of the American Bar, and who formerly held the office of Attorney-General of the United States, died at Halifax, on the 14th inst., while en route for England.

THE SCARBOROUGH MUSEUM was entered by thieves on Sunday night. Many valuable coins and weapons were stolen.

THE AUTHORITIES at the HORSE GUARDS have decided on dispatching several thousands of soldiers' wives to Bengal, Bombay, and Madras. The women will be provided with a free passage, and will be sent out from time to time with the Indian reinforcements proceeding from this country.

EIGHT LADIES OF THE ORDER OF MERCY left Bagot-street Convent, Dublin, on the 1st of July, for Sydney, there to found a convent, schools, &c., in connection with their order.

THE FRENCH SOLDIERS are to be taught to swim—the Minister of War having taken warning by the great mortality caused by drowning on the occasion of the passage of the various rivers which had to be forded by the French troops during the war in Italy.

THE HEAT in SPAIN is greater than has been known for many years; and it has not only done damage to the crops, but caused numerous sudden deaths of men and animals. At a place called Cinco Villas there had been so many fatal accidents of the kind that the authorities had prohibited agricultural labourers from working between ten and four o'clock.

A NEW STATUE OF GENERAL NAPIER is to be placed in St. Paul's. The figure is represented in repose, leaning on a sword. It stands eight feet high, on a plinth of six inches. Mr. Adams is the sculptor.

A LADIES' ASSOCIATION for the Diffusion of Sanitary Knowledge has been formed.

ACCORDING TO ADVICES FROM MALTA, Admiral Fanshawe left on the 18th inst. for Naples with five ships of the line and one frigate. Vice-Admiral Mundy has left with one ship and one frigate. The ship *Cressy* and two gun-boats have also sailed.

A SWORD OF HONOUR is nearly completed, to be presented to Mr. Mahon, Duc de Magenta, by his native town of Autun.

ALL FIREARMS, great and small, are likely to be superseded, says the *Globe*, as the new metal aluminium is found to be infinitely preferable to iron, bronze, or steel.

VARIOUS EXPLANATIONS have been given of the nomination of the Duke of Malakoff as Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour. The truth is (says the *Nord*) that, since his marriage, the Marshal has desired repose and residence in Paris, hence he wished for that appointment.

ALDERMAN BADGER, of Shrewsbury, committed suicide on Monday. The Alderman was Vice-President of the Great Western Railway Company.

SOME LARGE RICE AND FLOUR MILLS at Liverpool, on the banks of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, were totally destroyed by fire on Tuesday afternoon.

THE DEATH OF THE DUKE OF ARRANTES, son of the famous Junot, who was wounded at the battle of Solferino, is announced. The thigh had to be amputated, and the patient did not long survive the operation. The Duke was chief of the staff of one of the divisions of the army of Italy.

SOME VERY HEAVY GUNS, principally 68-pounders, and 10-inch shell have just been landed at Yarmouth, with their carriages, &c., for the north and south batteries. A detachment of the Royal Artillery is busily engaged in placing the guns in position.

THE OPERATIVE BUILDERS are leagued to enforce the nine hours' labour movement. It is thought that the employers will be obliged to give in.

THE DEAN OF CARLISLE (Mr. Close) has announced his intention of taking the total abstinence pledge. He also runs amuck against tobacco. Alcoholic drink and the Virginian weed are, he says, "twin fiends, gorging their insatiable hatred on the human race with at least equally fearful results."

THE MAGNIFICENT STATUE OF THE MARINE VENUS, discovered a few weeks ago in some excavations made at Rome in the gardens of Julius Cæsar, not far from the Portese Gate, has been definitively purchased for the Imperial Museum of St. Petersburg, for a sum of about 50,000fr.

A FAMILY OF GIPSIES (eight in number) were taken suddenly ill (says the *Standard Mercury*). A surgeon was sent for, who pronounced that they were suffering from the effects of arsenic, which appears to have been mixed with a quantity of flour that had been given them. There is a considerable mystery connected with the affair. For several hours the whole party were in great danger.

THE PARIS *Charivari* publishes a caricature representing a Zouave, in full uniform, addressing a respectable elderly gentleman in plain clothes, apparently a traveller, in these words:—"My good sir, all those histories about brigands and Fra Diavolos are nothing but nonsense. My regiment has been everywhere in Italy, and never once was stopped by any one!"

THE POPULATION OF FERRARA have compelled the Jesuits who resided in that town to abandon it. The Government has not interfered either on one side or the other.

THE SUNDERLAND SHIPWRIGHTS have agreed to employ as many men at the advanced wages of one shilling a day as may be necessary to complete within contract all ships sold. Work not contracted for is to be carried on by apprentices and non-unionist hands.

PROFESSOR KARL SIMROCK, of Bonn, the eminent translator and interpreter of the masterpieces of old German literature, has become deranged, it is said, by an excess of fear and anxiety in consequence of the late political events.

MR. BLONDIN, who crossed Niagara on a tightrope lately, has repeated the feat with his head in a bag! Henry L. Young, an equally foolhardy person, proposes to be carried across on Mr. Blondin's back.

THE DEGREE OF A.M. has been conferred upon Miss Martha Haines Butt by the Harrisburg (Pa.) Female Institute.

THE HIPPOPOTAMUS in the Jardin des Plantes was blessed with a cub the other day; soon after she murdered it. This is the second time this animal has been guilty of infanticide.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

IT has gone the round of the papers that Tennyson's "Idylls of the King" was ready for the press a year ago, but was for some unaccountable reason held back. The facts of the case are these, as I have learned from unquestionable authority. Just as the author was about to print the book—I am not sure that it was not sent to the press—some squeamish friend who had read the MS. expressed an opinion that the idyll "Vivien" was unfit for publication. This opinion made the poet nervous and apprehensive—so disgusted him, indeed, that at the time there was reason to fear the book would never see the light. Time, however, and reflection, and perhaps the opinion of other and wiser friends, strengthened and confirmed Mr. Tennyson's own judgment, and the "Idylls of the King" was at length sent to press.

Mr. Leatham, returned for Wakefield, has withdrawn his opposition to the petition against him, and is unseated. The wonder is that he ever defended his seat; and it is still more wonderful that he should have countenanced such proceedings at his election. It is the worst case that has been brought before the House for many years. Supposing that the election cost £5000—and I have been told that it will near £7000—Mr. Leatham has paid about £150 a night for the honour of a seat in the House. The only other member unseated at present is Mr. Schenley, who did not defend his seat for Dartmouth; but Mr. Astell, for Ashburton, is trembling; and the other Mr. Leatham (the member for Huddersfield) is in considerable danger. The late member for Wakefield is a brother-in-law of Mr. Bright, and his being ousted for bribery is a terrible blow to the school to which he belongs—which, as you know, affects great horror of political corruption. Both the Mr. Leathams are bankers at Wakefield, of the firm of Leatham, Trew, and Co., and both are authors. I have not seen any of their books. Although the younger Leatham spent at least £5000 to obtain his seat for Wakefield, there are not a thousand electors in the borough, and only 809 polled:—Mr. Leatham, 406; Mr. Charlesworth (his opponent), 403. Mr. Leatham is a staunch advocate of the Ballot.

Sir John Bowring and Mr. Chisholm Anstey are both in England, and may be seen almost every day in Pall-mall. The sojourn of these gentlemen in the Celestial Empire has strangely altered their appearance. The change in Sir John is remarkable: he is scarcely more than the shadow of his former self. To use the similitude of a witty friend, "he looks like a spent tea-leaf." The eloquent Chisholm is not so far gone, but he is dreadfully fallow and thin. There is to be a battle royal between these two in Parliament some day; but Mr. Edwin James, the friend and representative of the ex-Attorney-General for China, will hardly be able to see it in this year. Certain voluminous returns have to be obtained and conned over before he will be ready to open fire; and before this can be achieved the House will be up and gone. It is deemed specially fortunate that Mr. Anstey did not get into Parliament at the last election, to plead his own cause.

There is no question about the success of the Kean banquet last week. It was not a mere *succès d'amitié*—not a mere newspaper paragraph success, but a triumph, in every sense of the word. The enormous room at the St. James's Hall was thronged; and there were many who had difficulty in finding seats. Nearly every class was represented—and well represented. Of the aristocracy it is better to see the Duke of Newcastle, Lord John Manners, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Walpole, and men distinguished for their attainments, than the Marquis of Croyphay, Lord Sidebox, Count Joliejame, Sir D. Seeva, and Colonel C. Ducer, who are generally heralded as the recognised patrons of theatricals. Literature and journalism were present in the person of Mr. Thackeray (who would appear to be emulating the late Duke of Cambridge in his patronage of public dinners), Mr. Beresford Hope of the *Saturday Review*, Mr. John Oxenford, and Mr. G. A. Sala, who is rapidly assuming his true and proper position among modern authors; Messrs. David Roberts and Stanfield, Grieve and Telbin, were capital representatives of Art; and Music sent as ambassadors Messrs. Sims Reeves, Benedict, and Joachim. Of course there were very few actors present—none, indeed, except Messrs. Frank Matthews, Walter Lacy, and Everett, immediate members of Mr. Kean's staff. Had the *locale* been a pothouse, with an ex-publican in the chair, they would have "rallied round" anybody; but when they found some of the first statesmen of the day, men who will leave imperishable names, through a member of the profession doing honour to the profession itself, they kept aloof in disgust. They are, indeed, a curious race, and unaccountable in their habits and lives. The speeches were very good—far above the average of after-dinner orations. There is a heartiness about the Duke of Newcastle, an absence of "haw-hawism," and a frank, honest freedom, which is singularly attractive: he is very fluent, never hesitating for a word, and using well-chosen expressions, and yet all his speeches sounded as though extemporised, and not previously studied and prepared. Mr. Kean's speech was manly and spirited; a little too discursive perhaps, but gentlemanly and scholarly throughout; the peroration was capital, and his neat rendering of the old proverb, *A viro laudato laudari*, which he gave as "Respect from the respected," brought down thunders of applause. Mr. Gladstone was glib and facetious; and the honorary secretary to whose exertions the suc-

ness of the affair was principally due, returned thanks for the drink of his health in a long speech, of which not one single syllable was lost by anybody. The single failure of the evening was the banquet, and that was miserable. Though a frequent dinner-attendee, I have never been at a banquet before, and I never will be at another. All I can make out, they must have given Count Ugolino a daily banquet; and Oliver Twist and the other parochial-fed urchins must have been banqueting. A "banquet" means very bad turtle soup, and anything cold afterwards which you, as a fractional part of a grand total of six hundred, can induce an overworked waiter to give you. I saw in the paper next day that the banquet was "served in Mr. Donald's best style," and I have no doubt that the reporters conscientiously recorded their opinions, for I happened to be seated at the table next to that at which those gentlemen were placed, and they appeared to me to be eating sumptuously. I know that at my table the gentlemen were forced to regale themselves on pickled salmon, ham, and cold fowl! Oh, that cold fowl! If Mr. Donald had heard the observations about "all his pretty chickens, and their damn," he would have been shocked.

When a question arises as to the originality of the line, "Perdition catch my soul, but I do love thee," in Sir Fretful Plagiarist's play, the irritable dramatist is compelled savagely to avow that "Shakespeare may have thought of it first." It is unfortunate when an idea strikes simultaneously on two great minds. Mr. Tom Taylor is an unlucky parent in dramatic authorship. His penultimate bantling, "Nine Points of the Law," was stated by a correspondent of one of the journals to be a theatrical adaptation of a book by Mr. Savage, called "Clover Cottage," and the charge was only partially denied by the dramatist. Now, his Benjamin, his youngest, the apple of his eye, is claimed by a Mr. Davies, of Warrington, who writes to state that the entire plot, action, and incidents of "The Contested Election" are taken from a piece called "Our Town," written by Mr. Davies, which has been acted at Warrington, and of which 200 copies have been printed. The only difference, as stated by Mr. Davies, is that his was a municipal election, whereas Mr. Taylor's is a contest for the borough; but in both a retired and reluctant grocer is brought forward as the candidate, urged on by the vanity of his wife and the desire for practice of a sharp attorney; and in both cases an expedient of cutting a parcel of bank-notes in half, which is a main incident in the plot, is adopted. Mr. Taylor denies that he ever heard of Mr. Davies or his piece until the letter to the newspapers, and we must accept his denial, and call the affair a very strange coincidence. At all events, Mr. Taylor can safely prove that he did not pirate the names of three of his principal characters—Dodgson, Wapshot, and Honeybun—from Mr. Davies; for the first belongs to Mr. Dickens (*vide* "Pickwick"), the second to Mr. Thackeray (*vide* "Pendennis"), and the third to Mr. Stirling Coyne (*vide* a capital farce, which has been continually played, called "Did you ever send your wife to Camberwell?").

Future readers of "Vanity Fair" will be unable to satisfy their curiosity as to what might have been the appearance of that fairy scene where Josh Sedley drank too much rack punch and addressed Becky Sharp as his diddle-iddle darling! Vauxhall is at an end for ever! Its last rocket burst, its last lamp distinguished, its last ham cut to the bone! After being closed for a long time it was last week reopened for a series of farewell galas. It was numerous attended: its opening attracted the usual bad weather, and on Monday night it closed for ever. The ground is let for building, cockney villas will rise on the site of firework-ground, and British shops stand where erst was the Italian walk; the neighbourhood will gain, the general public will lose nothing, by the alteration. Whatever it may have been in the old days when Lord Philander and Lady Betty Modish and their compeers were in the habit of resorting thither, of late years Vauxhall has been the dull place of so-called amusement that can be conceived. It had no claim to be considered a garden, the few dusty shrubs and trees were utterly unlike any other horticultural specimens, and it was merely a barren sandy desert, where people walked round and round under a covered promenade lit with illumination lamps, or stood in a little crowd under a ghastly orchestra, in front of which a man in evening dress was singing spasmodically comic songs. The fiction that the fashionable world still visited the place was kept up to the last, but they were supposed to leave immediately after the fireworks, when the dancing began. Ever since the establishment of Cremorne the fate of Vauxhall has been known; it could not for a minute stand a competition with its young and energetic rival, and at last it has quietly and decorously succumbed.

"Extraordinary Scene at the Surrey Music Hall," says the liner on Tuesday morning; and the liner was right. An English gentleman teaching manners to, and by sheer pluck putting down, a set of roughs, more especially when that gentleman happens to be a member of the musical or dramatic profession, and is therefore regarded by the public as their bond slave, is an "extraordinary scene." A concert is given at this Surrey Music Hall for the benefit of a charitable institution, and Mr. Sims Reeves, among other singers, is engaged. His first song is the "Fra poco," the finale to "Lucia di Lammermoor," which he happens to sing better than any vocalist of the present day, better than Mario, better than Gardoni, better even than Roger, who was his nearest rival, and which is an exceedingly trying piece of vocalisation. Amid thunders of applause Mr. Reeves retires, but the audience, who have paid their shillings, and to whom the singer's fatigue, exhaustion, and strained voice are nothing, insist upon having the song again. Mr. Reeves not reappearing, crowd roars and shrieks, gentleman advances and attempts to explain, crowd won't hear gentleman, won't hear anybody, until stunned into silence by the performance of "The Wedding March." All goes smoothly until Mr. Reeves comes on for his second song, when the row is renewed with tenfold vigour: crowd won't hear a note; Mr. Reeves begins; crowd groans him down; determined not to be conquered, Mr. Reeves quietly seats himself, and the crowd breaks into two sections, one wanting, the other refusing, to hear the great tenor. The enthusiasts carry the day; somebody proposes that the ringleaders of the malcontents should be expelled. Mr. Reeves points out two or three of them, and they are immediately kicked out of the building. After his third song, Mr. Reeves counters "The Bay of Biscay," and thus crowns his triumph. A very sensible line of conduct, Mr. Reeves, and an example well worthy of imitation.

Mr. Anthony Trollope, the well-known novelist, has returned to England after a nine-months' tour through the West Indies, Central America, &c. The result of his observations, as embodied in a book of travel, is already in the hands of Messrs. Chapman and Hall.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The theatres keep open in spite of the hot weather, but they are doing but a poor business.

Mr. Byron has burlesques at two theatres—a version of "The Lady of Lyons" at the Strand, and a curious mixture of nursery-tale and Shakespeare, called "The Babes in the Wood," at the Adelphi. The acting of Mr. Rogers in the former, and of Mr. Toole in the latter, is well worth seeing—in both cases a most genuine artistic performance. The Adelphi will probably close next week for a short time.

Mr. Albert Smith's entertainment "China" closes this (Saturday) night.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—The engines of this monster ship are now erected, the propeller is in its place, and the floats are on the paddle-wheels. The ship, indeed, is so far complete that the steam has been got up to try the efficacy of the bearings, and so forth. The carpenters having put up the deck bulwarks, the painters are giving the boards the first coat. The deck-planks are nearly all in, and in a short period the Great Eastern might take a trial-trip to sea, but, as she will still have to be coaled and provisioned, it is not generally believed that she will be really taken to sea before the end of the autumn.

PARADES WITH.—The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* says that a well-known banker lately observed that several of his clerks had adorned themselves with moustaches. He called into his private room all the moustached, and said, "Gentlemen, I have no wish to interfere with your private amusements or hobbies; but I must insist upon the moustaches being off in business hours. After five p.m. indulge your hobbies, if you choose."

MR. RAREY AND THE SUFFOLK CART SIRE.

On Saturday last, the 23rd, Mr. Rarey delivered at the Alhambra Palace another of his extraordinary lectures on the humane treatment of the horse. The carriages waiting outside the building showed that Mr. Rarey's audience was a fashionable one. All the guinea chairs and every fifteen-shilling seat were taken. There were as many ladies as gentlemen present, though we presume they came more from curiosity than any desire to become horse-tamers. As we looked around us the mean desire to know as much as possible of our neighbour's affairs made a calculating boy of us, and at a rough guess we put down the money taken at the doors at about £1000.

It was to be a very extraordinary and long-promised performance, from which Mr. Rarey was to issue either with all his limbs broken, or with tenfold renown. The story of the Suffolk cart sire is this:—There resides near Cambridge a gentleman who owns a wonderful cart-horse, a beautifully-formed animal, that at the first glance captivates the eye, but so vicious that if he can only get near enough to his admirers he completes his conquests by kicking and biting. This evil-minded but lovely brute is well known to all in the neighbourhood as the worst of characters. He has killed one groom and bitten the arm of another unfortunate man. At every cattle show he carried off the first prize, but invariably disgusted the judges by his disgraceful behaviour. On a late occasion his conduct was so outrageous that he was ignominiously turned out of the place. In fact, it became a matter of serious debate with the sorrowing proprietor whether such a bad-hearted horse should be allowed to live. No extenuating circumstances could mitigate the diabolical acts of his terrible life, and sentence of death was passed. But whilst passing its last days in the condemned stall Mr. Rarey heard of the hardened brute, and offered to tame its ungovernable nature. The only difficulty was how to get the horse to the schoolhouse in Leicester-square. Cambridge is a long way off. The bad character of the wretch had reached the ears of the station-master, and he refused to convey it by railway, for the vicious animal was given to kicking his box to splinters. The matter was at last arranged by Mr. Rarey engaging a special train, and making himself liable for any damage his iniquitous pupil might turn his heels to. Accompanied by his nervous grooms, this infamous cart sire reached the Alhambra Palace in safety, without rendering itself more than usually offensive.

Mr. Rarey's lecture on Saturday commenced with Cruiser, who charmed everybody by his amiability and gentleness; then another subject, that was "nervous about being mounted," had all its objections removed in a short quarter of an hour, and ended by becoming rather partial to having Mr. Rarey on its back, especially when he played the drum. Then the tamer announced that the savage cart-horse was about to make its appearance. He gave a short outline of the black life the evil-minded wretch had led, and, having graphically explained the excessive danger of the animal's society, went out to fetch it, leaving the lady portion of his audience in great uncertainty as to whether they ought not to sacrifice their guinea chairs and go home to the children.

The chestnut giant was led in by its strong-armed grooms, who kept it at a safe distance by means of long and strong straps. A huge, solid body, round as an apple, with legs that seemed powerful enough to kick down a suburban villa; a curling mane, that seemed stiff and to flame up angrily from the thick neck; two wicked, sour eyes, showing the whites; and a massive forelock, that it spitefully tossed from its face—that is the best description we can give of the monster. It stood stiff on its legs like a child in a spasm of rage. It appeared to feel insulted instead of cowed at being examined by so many eyes. The ladies looked nervously at the terrible mouth that had killed a man. We had prudently taken a back seat, but on beholding this bulky beast we commenced calculating our best chance of escape in case the animal should take a fancy to leap among its spectators.

But there was that thin, delicate-looking man, Rarey, standing coolly within a yard of the bad character's heels. He merely observed that the most dangerous part of this horse's disposition was that it kicked and bit without giving any warning by laying its ears back. Then he advanced to the biting mouth, and quickly arranged the bridle to his wishes. The strong straps were passed through the bellyband, or roller, the neck forced round, and the head firmly secured, so that, whilst the animal was looking in the direction of its tail on one side, the tamer could, without fear of bites, operate on the other. But this feat was not accomplished without the brute roaring like a lion. Two ladies, most fashionably attired, made for the door and never returned.

Mr. Rarey always tells his pupils that when they stroke a horse they should pass the hand as lightly as if caressing a bird. Before he proceeds to strap up the leg of a horse he always passes his hand gently over the creature's body, and so by degrees reaches the leg he wishes to hobble. But with this Suffolk sire, if he had thumped him with a rolling-pin, the yells, screams, and roars could not have been louder, longer, or faster. He bellowed at the slightest touch, the legs stamped, the flesh quivered, and the thick tail whisked about like a rope's end. He would have given his ears if he could have used his big teeth, but the head was securely fixed, and the tamer secure from the champing mouth. As there were no signs of trembling in Rarey, we trembled for him. But the anger and the bellowing were of no avail, for in a few moments the fore leg was strapped up, and the cool Canadian, resting his hands on his hips, proceeded calmly to talk. "Taking one leg from a horse places him in our power." He evidently had perfect faith in what he said, for he stood as near to the rampant beast as if it had been a stuffed figure. Mr. Rarey has a simple way of explaining himself, which from its artlessness is very convincing, more especially as he never speaks until he has done something he can talk about. He modestly told his audience that the task of taming a carthorse seemed, at first sight, very hard work, yet the size and heaviness of the animal were in his favour, for the creature the sooner exhausted its strength. "Small horses," he said, "are the most difficult to manage. They are light and active, and struggle a long time before I can throw them. No horse can resist me for more than fifteen minutes; very few more than ten; and usually they only take about three minutes." "This one," he added, pointing to the sire, "will soon yield." Truly enough, the other strap had scarcely been fixed before the huge carcass, after a few struggles on its knees, rolled over on the straw and stretched its legs out as if it gave up the battle.

Now its body was conquered, but its lungs were in very good order. It roared at every touch. The hind legs started out suddenly—it panted as if it had been overdriven. As the brute was a biter, Mr. Rarey, secure in his theory for curing this vice, seated himself on its neck, and proceeded to handle the dangerous spiteful mouth that had killed one man and maimed another. Then the battle began again. The horse objected with fierce screams to having his nose touched. Perhaps it remembered the twitches that had half wrenched off the lips, or the thick sticks that had beaten its nostrils, but its cries were of no avail, for Rarey said, "I have to teach the horse that it is powerless, and that I intend doing him no harm," and his small hand still clutched the bridle. The brute had fixed ideas which even Rarey's soft hand could not dismiss. It yelled and writhed, tossing its neck up, and with it the slim figure of its master. Everybody felt alarmed. The house grew very silent, so that the roaring of the animal seemed the louder. The only fearless person was the one who was nearest to the danger. His ears must have been deafened by the yelling of the monster, but still he tussled with the big head, until the tired horse allowed him to hold it quietly in his hands. Then Rarey rose calmly from his unsafe seat, and, though a little out of breath with his exertion, chatted again with his company, instructing them in humanity, uttering kind thoughts, that, with the conquest before him, could not fail to have effect. That huge monster had been beaten and starved, and still remained unconquered, until he, without a blow, without an angry word, had mastered him. That small hand of his had been stronger than the carthorse. "It is not by strength," said the tamer, "that we can conquer horses. Their strength is more than ten men could manage. It is only by our superior intelligence that we can overcome horses. We must teach them that we mean them no harm, and

then they are not afraid of us. A gentleman once told me that a horse would sooner take a beating than undergo the hard treatment of my process. I answered him that it was as hard work for me as for the horse, but I preferred it to a beating. Many people, after all I have done, accuse me of using drugs. They cannot get down the common sense of the thing. I only improve the intelligence of the animals. If drugs would do that, there are many human beings to whom they would be useful." Then, sitting down on the horse's hind quarters, he added, "This is only hard work to those who choose to make it hard work;" and so easy, comfortable, and self-possessed did he seem that a burst of laughter rose which made the Suffolk sire grow fidgety and bellow angrily.

The most nervous portion of the performance now came. The agile conqueror began to pass his hand over the prostrate body. He kept among the legs that might have killed him with one kick. He vaulted over the body, placed his foot in triumph between the ears, patted the now quiet head, stroked the fat back, and seemed quite the master, when suddenly the beast, feeling Rarey behind him, threw out those mighty legs of his. We had been told that he kicked without moving his ears, but just then our eyes were on his tail, and we cannot certify to the fact; but this we can vouch for, that anybody but Rarey would have had both legs broken, for who could have leaped so calmly backwards as if the wind caused by the lunging limbs had blown him away?

Cries of "Keep away, Rarey!" entreated the tamer to have no more to do with such a beast. The ladies began to leave—the gentlemen to wish they dare show their fears in the same way. But the Canadian, though every breath was shortened with sympathetic alarm, remained near the brute, his calm face not even flushed. Before ten minutes had passed the brute yielded. He rose an altered and a better horse; at least it rose upon its hind quarters, and sat for a minute like a dog looking about it. Rarey leaped upon its back as it regained its feet. The Suffolk sire stood passively; whilst thus seated, the dompteur addressed his last words to the astonished audience, "This horse," he told them, "was conquered for a time, but to make him perfectly docile it should have two lessons a day for at least a fortnight. No one," he added, "would think a child educated by merely sending it once to school. The horse must learn its lesson of obedience so that it will not forget it." After leading the perfectly quiet monster twice round the circus he handed it over to its grooms, and the exhibition ended.

We have only a few words to add. Any man who possesses the same cool, fearless nature as Mr. Rarey may do as he does. But where are you to find that man? Who could advance fearlessly to the mouth of the murderous biter, or stand calmly by the side of the hearing, raging kicker? Before the hobbles and the straps are required the nerves must be educated. No sense of danger must disturb the operator. His temper must never be roused, but the soft patting hand and the kind voice be ready to sooth the alarmed beast. Now, where is there another man besides Rarey who comprises all these requirements? His entertainment is the most wonderful lesson in practical humanity we have ever witnessed and listened to.

THE DEATH OF MR. RICHARD TATTERSALL, who was for many years the proprietor of "The Corner," is announced. Mr. Tattersall was in his seventy-sixth year.

ILLUMINATING PICTURE GALLERIES.—The commission appointed to ascertain whether pictures would be injured by the illumination of the galleries by gas have decided the question in the negative. They say that gas as used is sufficiently free from sulphuretted hydrogen as to have become innocuous, and that, provided means can be established for the removal of the sulphurous acid and other gases which are generated by combustion, no bad effect can ensue from the use of ordinary coal gas. This arrangement is very simple; that adopted in the Sheepshanks Gallery is said to be thoroughly efficacious.

LATEST FROM KOSSUTH.—Mr. John McAdam, of Glasgow, writes on Thursday week to the *North British Daily Mail*.—"This morning I have received very late and trustworthy intelligence from M. Kossuth. Particulars I am not yet at liberty to communicate; however, for the satisfaction of his numerous friends I may state that after his betrayal he remained only long enough to save as many of his revolted countrymen from harm as he could, and to prevent any further present hopeless insurrection. He then retired into Switzerland, where he was joined by Madame Kossuth three days ago; and it is uncertain whether he may not be obliged to remain for some weeks before he returns to England."

LOSS OF THE SHIP ALMA.—Intelligence has been received at Liverpool of the loss of the Alma, bound from Calcutta for London. The news of this sad affair is dated from Calcutta, June 14, and states briefly that the Alma had been totally wrecked, and that the pilot (one of the oldest on the river, who was just going his last trip previous to retirement), leadman, Captain Munce, wife and child, and a lady passenger, together with fourteen of the crew of the ill-fated vessel, perished.

SHIPWRECKS IN 1858.—In 1858 the number of vessels wrecked on the coast and in the seas of the United Kingdom was 1170; of these 334 were total wrecks, 50 sank by collision, making the number of totally lost 404. Vessels stranded and damaged so as to require to discharge cargo, 515, by collision, 251; total 766, making the whole number of wrecks 1170. By these disasters the lives of 1895 persons were imperilled, of which number 340 persons, or 18, were actually lost. By the life-boats of the National Lifeboat Institution, those of local bodies, various other craft, and the rock apparatus, 1555 of our fellow-creatures were during the past year rescued from a watery grave.

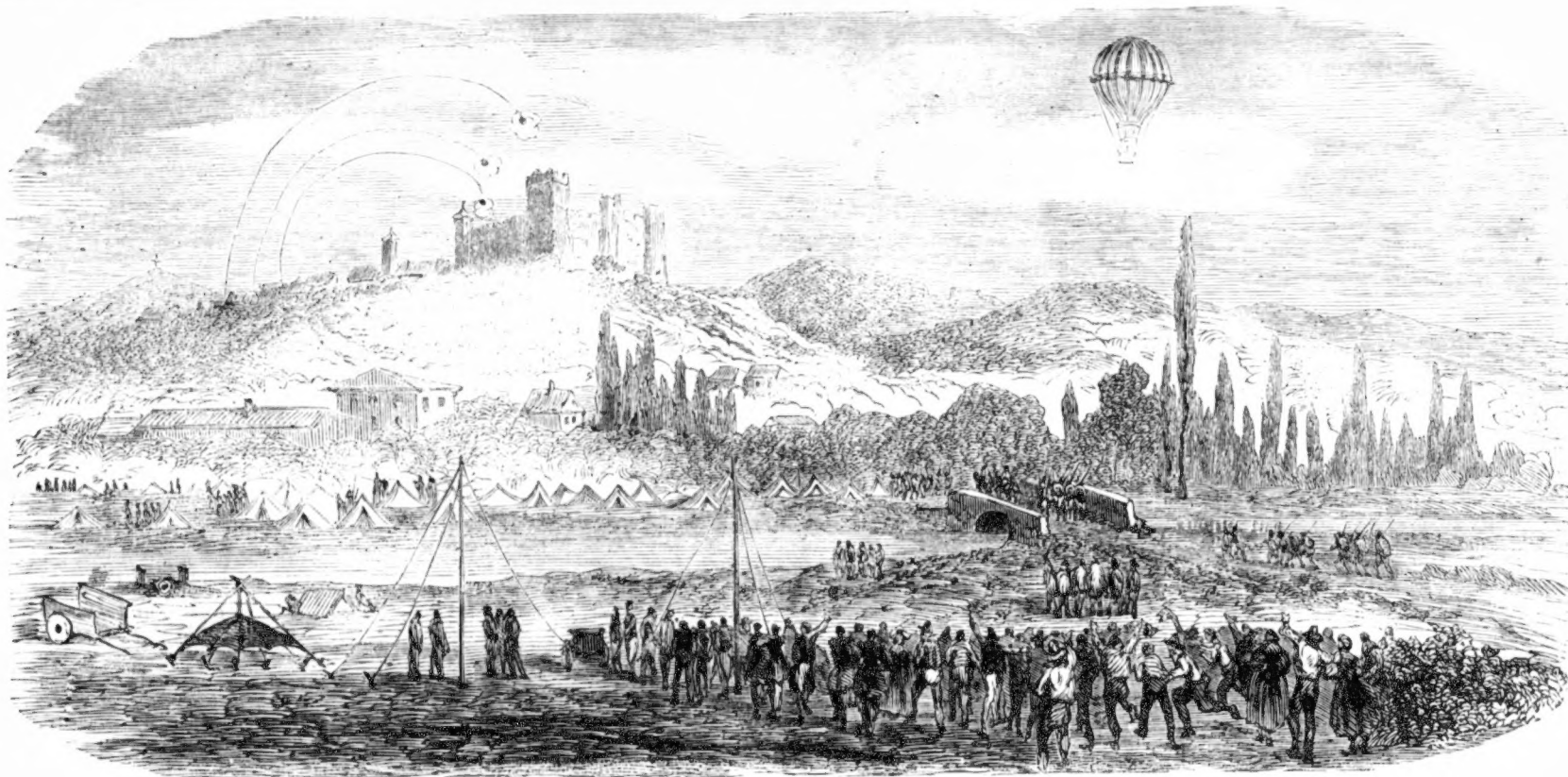
THE END OF THE SICKLES TRAGEDY.—A letter from Washington in the *New York Herald* says:—"The friends of the Hon. D. E. Sickles in this city have learned that he and his wife are about to resume marital relations, if they had not already done so. It was rumoured that he was about to sue for a divorce, but that idea has been abandoned. The families of both put their heads together, and, after discussing all the pros and cons, they came to the conclusion that it would be better for Mr. Sickles and his wife to live together again in peace and mutual affection, burying the past in the grave of oblivion. Both parties have agreed to this step, and it is said their love is greater than ever. There is immense rejoicing among their friends, who have written letters of warm congratulation."

BRIAN BORU AND THE DUKE OF MAGENTA.—The Marshal Duke of Magenta is a lineal descendant of Mahon, the son of that King Murtagh O'Brien who was the last Monarch of Erin of the O'Briens, and great-grandson of Brian Boroihe or Boru. A prouder descent no noble nor prince in Europe can lay claim to; and, if length of proved pedigree is still to be considered a matter of honour and satisfaction, we believe there are not in Europe a dozen families who can trace their descent, without a step lost or doubtful, so far back to remote antiquity as (through the great King Brian) may the Marshal Maurice Patrick M'Mahon as clearly as his kinsman William Smith O'Brien.—*Irishman*.

THE HEALTH OF LONDON.—The mortality in the metropolis is still increasing, especially amongst children. Diarrhoea has been the most fatal malady. Dr. Lethely visited the Bridewell burial-ground on Saturday, and a pretty account he has to give of it. "The ground is littered with rubbish and building materials. Most of the gravestones have been taken up, and they lie scattered about in unseemly disorder. Trenches are being dug through human remains, and there are heaps of black fetid earth charged with the debris of putrefying organic matter. One of these heaps is immediately below the windows of a house in Sugar-loaf-court, where last week there were two deaths from typhus, and since the graveyard has been disturbed the inhabitants of that court have been decimated with fever and zymotic disease."

ARMSTRONG GUNS AND RIFLED CANNON.—The most noticeable feature in the Arsenal, writes the *Marseilles* correspondent of the *Times*, "is the effort made to provide rifled ordnance for the Navy. The system which appears to be definitively adopted consists of three grooves about three inches broad and an eighth of an inch deep, with a twist of one-sixth." These guns are being supplied rapidly to the French line-of-battle ships. It would certainly seem but a prudent step to make use of the guns we have as supplemental to the "Armstrongs," which must be comparatively few in number for the next two or three years. There are, we believe, no less than 7000 smooth-bored guns now lying at Woolwich Arsenal. To rifle a part of these would be an easy and, comparatively, an inexpensive work. If beyond the powers of the Government establishments the work might be distributed among the various factories in our great towns, by the end of the year large numbers of rifled guns might be fit for use.

A WATERSPOUT.—A waterspout fell with great violence on Wednesday week on the Mauchline Hill, immediately above the village. The volume of water was immense, and completely flooded the locality. Some of the inhabitants, whose houses were near the rivulet which traverses the village, only escaped their escape by cutting a passage through the thatched roofs. The railway at Kinginchlugh cutting was flooded to a depth of six feet. Two lives were lost in the neighbourhood, the sufferers being a ploughman and a little girl.—*Glasgow Citizen*.



BALLOON RECOGNISANCE OF THE FORTIFICATIONS OF PESCHIERA.—[FROM A SKETCH BY M. MOULLIN.]

PESCHIERA.

THIS week we publish two Engravings in connection with Peschiera, one from a Sketch by our own Correspondent, the other due to the pencil of a gentleman who has largely contributed to our pages since the commencement of the war. In our Artist's last letter he gave us some particulars of the firing from the forts, and the damage done to the village of Ponti by the shelling. M. Moullin sends us a drawing of the last-named place, taken in the valley below the hill from which our artist sketched the outworks of the fortress. It was from this point that M. Godard used to make his balloon ascents, which enabled him to see all that was going on within the town of Peschiera, and to observe the strength and number of the enemy's batteries. It may not be uninteresting to our readers to have some particulars of the stronghold so completely invested by the allies at the time of the peace.

Peschiera is built on the point where the River Mincio leaves the lake. This issuing of the river has been regulated by sluices and flood-gates. It comes out now in three branches, which divide the ground lying between them into two islands of unequal size, each having, as well as the river itself, a direction from north-west to south-east. Both islands together do not occupy more than a surface of half a square mile. The town proper, or rather hamlet—for it is little more—is built on the more southerly of these two islands, and the islands themselves are surrounded by an irregular pentagon of stone

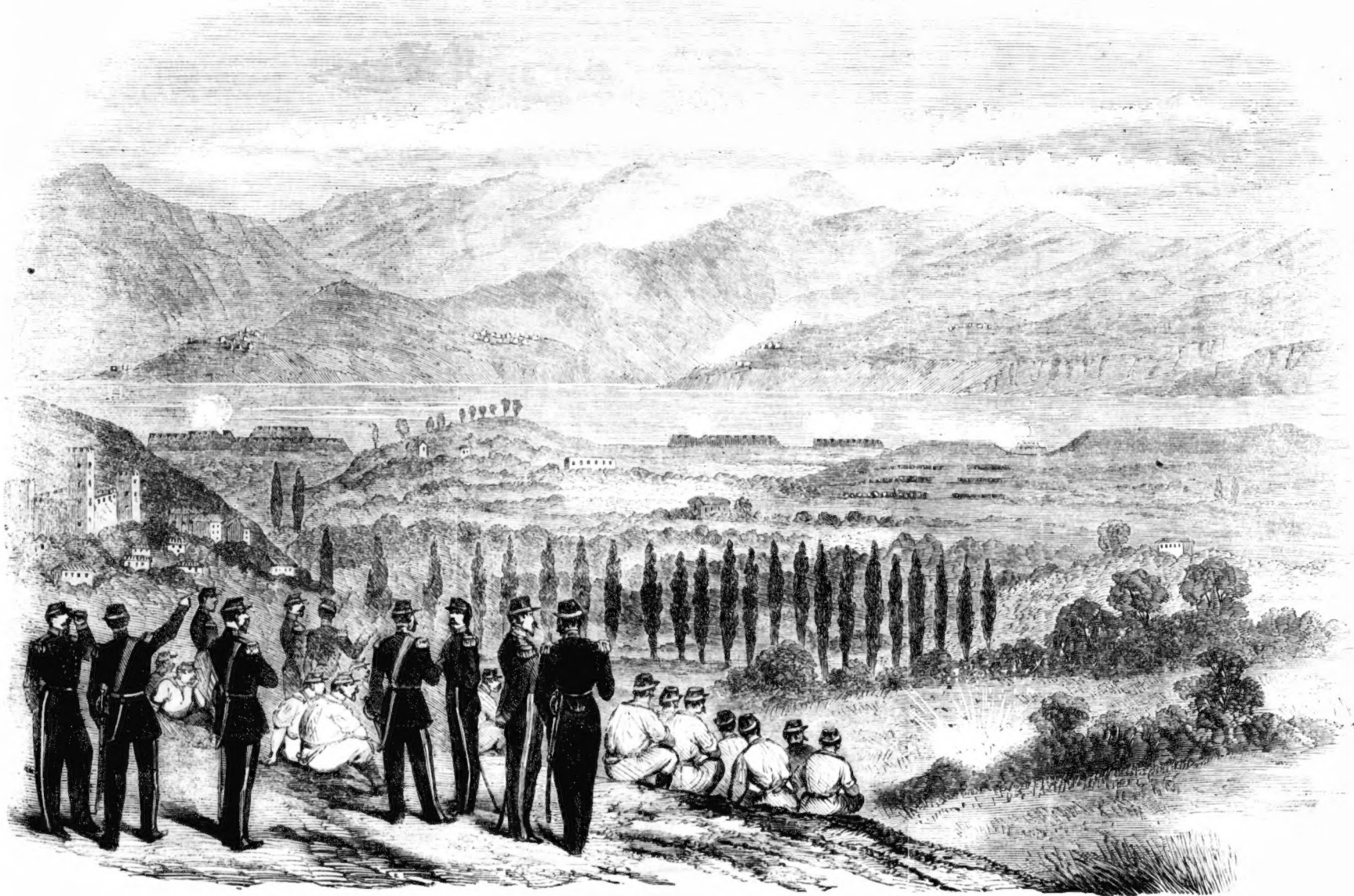
and earthworks, the two outer branches of the river forming the ditch to them. The main branch, which runs between the two islands, as well as the two outer ones, is bridged over in several places, thus connecting the banks of the river with the islands and these islands between them. Close to the banks are two hills, the one on the left bank skirting the river, which takes a southerly direction soon after leaving the town. The others lie south-west of the town. They form thus, as it were, natural outworks for the fortress, and have been both fortified with a double line of works. Not more than a thousand yards from these detached hills begins the range which, more or less, runs along the whole extent of the southern shores of the lake. To the west of the fortress it begins almost close to the lake, and by a gentle ascent rises in a semicircle towards the Mincio, crossing the road to Ponti. It is broken by the course of the Mincio, but rises again rather abruptly on the other bank of the river at La Ca, and, striking off in a north-easterly direction, goes off towards Cavalcaselle, having some low ground between it and the lake. On the first semicircular range were the Sardinian lines in 1858. Since then the Austrians have constructed from shore to shore thirteen detached forts, all lunettes—namely, seven to the west, and six others to the east and north of the Mincio. This addition looks more formidable than it is in reality, for everywhere, except close to the lake, these detached works are commanded from the hills close to them, and the irregularity of these hills gives great faci-

lities for enfilading them. It was just with a view to guard against this that the Austrians constructed these detached works so close to each other, especially those to the west of the Mincio.

However, it is impossible for us to speculate on the real strength of these outworks, as, at the very moment the Piedmontese trenches were about to open fire, the peace came and put a stop to everything. The general impression appears to have been that Peschiera would have fallen in ten or twelve days, especially as the place would have been bombarded on the lake side, where no preparations for defence had been made.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE ART-UNION.

THE interesting objects of art depicted in the above Engraving are a portion of the prizes selected by the council of the Crystal Palace Art-Union for distribution among the members of this new association. This particular art-union has been established with a view to encourage a taste for the higher productions of art-manufacture among the general public. The council of the society consists of some of our best-known artists, and is presided over by the Earl of Carlisle, the Marquis d'Azeglio, and Lord Talbot de Malahide. Hitherto art-unions have been confined to the distribution of pictures and engravings, the latter not always well selected and often scarcely worth the subscription fee,



A PORTION OF THE WORKS OF PESCHIERA.—[FROM A SKETCH BY F. VIZETELLY.]



THE CRYSTAL PALACE ART-UNION PRIZES.

but in the case of the Crystal Palace Art-Union subscribers have the opportunity of selecting from a choice collection of works of art some object that pleases their fancy, and which is of the intrinsic value of the amount of their subscriptions.

With reference to the prizes, which were drawn for on Thursday last, and which consist of bronzes, Parian statuettes, costly painted china, and some admirable photographic views of the interior and exterior of the Crystal Palace, its fountains, and its gardens, and of the

various courts within the building, our Engraving will convey merely a partial idea. The tazza in electro bronze is from the works of Messrs. Elkington, and which, by the way, is certainly one of the most perfect specimens yet produced by this eminent firm; the Etruscan mortuary urns are admirable copies of the originals; and the renaissance vase, in ceramic statuary, is extremely chaste in form, its elaborate ornamentation being, moreover, in thorough keeping with the general design. The swan tazza and porcelain cruche, with its

delicate Italian ornament in enamel and chased gold, are two most elegant objects; and the busts of Ophelia and Miranda, reproduced from models by Mr. Calder Marshall, are full of sentiment and expression.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR AUGUST.

THE excessive heat of the weather during the last few weeks has caused muslin and barege to be very generally adopted for out-door



FASHIONS FOR AUGUST.

costume. Dresses of these thin textures are all made with flounces; some are made with one broad flounce at the bottom, and a double skirt, the edge of which just touches the top of the flounce. This has an effect very preferable to that of five or seven narrow flounces; the latter style, however, has recently been highly fashionable. As these narrow flounces only cover about one half of the skirt, the dress, when made of a thin, transparent texture, has the effect of being composed of two different materials. If narrow flounces are adopted they should entirely cover the skirt.

Many muslin dresses are made with low or half-high corsages, and worn with fichus or pelerines, some of which are extremely showy and elegant. They are usually made of muslin, tulle, or guipure, and tastefully trimmed with runnings and bows of coloured ribbon. The sleeves should correspond with the fichu with which they are worn.

Some elegant new designs have been introduced in barège, mouseline de soie, and other light materials suitable for summer costume.

No form of sleeve is at present more fashionable than the pagoda— unquestionably none is more elegant. An attempt has been made in Paris to introduce tight sleeves, but without much success.

Silks having white grounds, figured with bouquets of flowers, in variegated hues, are very fashionable for dinner and evening costume. Dresses made of these silks are exceedingly effective when trimmed with ruches and bows of coloured ribbon in the Pompadour style.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Fig. 1. Dress of gaze de soie, having a white ground covered with small green chequers. The skirt has two broad flounces, each of which is edged with three narrow frills, set on in undulating lines and finished with rouleaux of green silk. The corsage, which is not pointed at the waist, is half high, and cut square in front in the style called à la Raphaël. It is finished at top by a froncé of green silk, confined at regular intervals by loops. The front of the corsage is ornamented with bows of green ribbon, the lowest forming a fastening for the ceinture at the waist. The sleeves have three narrow frills at the shoulders, and are finished at the lower ends with the same trimming. These frills, like those on the flounces, are edged with narrow rouleaux of green silk. The under-sleeves are formed of large puffs of white muslin, confined at the wrists by bands of needlework. The coiffure consists of bows of green and black ribbon fixed at the back part of the head.

Fig. 2. Robe of nankin, with large cascade of the same material. The corsage is ornamented with white passementerie in an arabesque pattern. The pockets and ends of the sleeves are trimmed in corresponding style. The cascade is edged all round with broad white braid, and is fastened up the front, from the lower edge to the throat, with white fancy buttons. Bonnet of paille de riz, trimmed with tufts of wheatears. Bavolet and strings of white ribbon.

Fig. 3. Robe Gabrielle, of apricot-coloured pique. The front, from the edge of the skirt to the top of the corsage, is ornamented with two rows of open needlework insertion, and between them is a row of white passementerie buttons. A Henri IV. hat, turned up at each side, and ornamented with a long white ostrich feather, fastened by loops of black velvet. Under the brim of the hat there is a trimming of black lace. White cambric under-sleeves, and gloves of grey kid.

Fig. 4. Robe of mouseline de soie figured, with bouquets of flowers in mauve colour. The skirt has four flounces, edged with bands of mauve-coloured taffetas. The top flounce is headed by a plisse of mauve ribbon. The ceinture of grey ribbon, edged with mauve, is fastened in a bow and long flowing ends in front of the waist. The berthe and sleeves are ornamented with trimming corresponding with that on the flounces. Head-dress of black lace. Collar and sleeves of worked muslin.

OPERAS AND CONCERTS.

DURING the past week, at the very end of the season, two new operas, each of the greatest importance, have been produced respectively at Covent Garden and Drury Lane. The Italian version of Meyerbeer's "Pardon de Ploërmel" was played for the first time on Tuesday at the Royal Italian Opera. Verdi's "Vêpres Siciliennes" was brought out on Wednesday at Mr. Smith's establishment.

The "Pardon de Ploërmel" is Meyerbeer's latest work. It was produced in the spring of the present year at the Paris Opéra Comique, and in preparing it for representation at Covent Garden, in the form of a grand opera, the composer has been obliged to add recitatives, which in the Italian version take the place of the French spoken dialogue. Meyerbeer has also written a new and charming air for Mademoiselle Didée, to whom is allotted a very insignificant part. In other respects the music of "Il Pellegrinaggio di Ploërmel" is identical with that of "Le Pardon de Ploërmel."

The "Pardon de Ploërmel" (as we shall continue to call it) differs from all Meyerbeer's grand operas, and also from his "Etoile du Nord," in several important respects. In the new work there are no massive concerted pieces or grand finales; there are no divertissements; the chorus plays a subordinate part throughout; and the action of the drama is confined to three personages, named Dinorah, Hoel, and Corentin. The libretto is founded on a story of which only the latter half is represented on the stage. But from an air sang by Hoel it appears that exactly a year before, while the "Pardon," or Saint's Festival of Ploërmel, was being celebrated, the house of Dinorah's father had been struck by lightning and consumed. With the paternal property Dinorah had lost her only means of subsistence, and Hoel, who loves her, and to whom she is betrothed, had visited a reputed enchanter, to ascertain what form of incantation would enable him to discover a certain mysterious treasure, so that he might replace his fiancée in a position of affluence. (Hoel being a Breton, the notion of working for her would naturally never have occurred to him.) The sorcerer has informed Hoel that he must leave his home, his relations, and his bride, and wander about for a year, after which a white goat will appear to him, and lead him in the direction of the treasure. There are other tedious cabalistic details which we will spare the reader. Suffice it that a white goat is to be an important instrument in the discovery of the prize.

During the unexplained absence of Hoel, Dinorah imagines, of course, that she is deserted. She loses her reason, and is in the habit, we find, of straying about Ploërmel, accompanied by a white goat. When the curtain rises (after an overture which is intended to suggest the events that have occurred immediately before those on which the actual piece is founded) a body of Ploërmel peasants sing a lively chorus, and immediately afterwards the gentle, unfortunate, half-witted Dinorah enters. She should be attended by a goat, but the capricious *obligato* accompaniment (as the authors, MM. Barbier and Carré, consider it) is unavoidably omitted. After a short scene, the instrumental introduction to which has already been heard in the overture, Dinorah sings a cradle-song to the imaginary goat, whom she is supposed to be hushing to sleep. This air—one of the most delightful in the opera—is exquisitely sung by Madame Miolan Carvalho, who on Tuesday night made her début in England, and also her first appearance in the part of Dinorah. Madame Miolan is slight, almost fragile, in figure, and has a voice to correspond. She sings with marvellous skill; and, if she owed to nature half what she does to art, it would be not easy to find her equal among the light soprano singers of the day. But her voice is thin and weak, especially in the middle notes, where something like a break may be observed. Her execution leaves nothing to be desired; for, though there is an apparent want of expression in her singing of a cantabile passages, this, as it appears to us, arises merely from lack of power, or rather of volume; but certainly Madame Miolan is not deficient in feeling.

As soon as Dinorah has finished her lovely cradle-song, the bagpipes (the Breton *cornemuse*) are heard outside, and one Corentin comes in, playing the instrument of his province. Corentin is a mean, cowardly, superstitious, semi-idiotic peasant. He is full of the instinct of self-preservation, which, in a diseased and highly-inflamed state, will lead a man to commit any act of poltroonery or rascality. Corentin, who on

his entry has some very pretty and characteristic couplets to sing, is terribly afraid when he sees poor little Dinorah, whom he takes for some sorceress of the Cello-Breton species. But Dinorah is amused with Corentin's bagpipes, and makes him play to her. This forms the subject of an admirable duet, in which the young girl, after imitating the music of the cornemuse, and causing the terrified player to follow her about falls asleep. The part of Corentin is played by Gardoni, who fortunately has but rarely to resort to the falsetto, and who sang the above-mentioned couplets with excellent effect.

Next, Hoel—his year of wandering having expired—enters, and goes through a long scena, in which he invokes the powers of magic, addresses his absent mistress, vowing that it is for her sake alone he has mixed himself up with cabalistic affairs, and ends by singing a song of triumph inspired by the prospect of possessing that very day an unlimited amount of gold. In a duet with Corentin, Hoel, by exciting his avarice, induces him to join with him in getting possession of the treasure, which, in spite of Hoel's triumphant caballetta, appears after all to be no easy matter. This duet and the comic one which follows it make together a very long scene. The two pieces in the French are separated by dialogue, which may or may not be interesting; but when united by recitative, they form a double duet which, though full of beauties, is fatiguing from its very duration.

The tinkling of a little bell is the signal for the reappearance at the back of the stage of Dinorah, who is looking for her goat. Hoel welcomes the sound as indicating the presence of the enchanted animal who is to lead him to the treasure. Corentin listens and trembles, believing also that the bell he hears belongs to an animal with diabolic hoofs. The music of this terzet, which closes the first act, is very ingenious and very beautiful.

Act II opens with a very effective chorus on the subject of wine, the melody of which sometimes reminds us of an old English air, but it is, in fact, taken from a French popular drinking song, in which the male and female voices are employed alternately, with excellent effect. Altogether the chorus is admirable, and on Monday evening it was loudly encored. Dinorah's entry is followed by a romance, which is one of the most touching laments ever written. Madame Miolan sang it very charmingly, but she is more successful in brilliant, florid music. The song of the shadow, her next morceau, is what, in jewellers' style, is called the "gem" of the opera. It is a captivating melody, written in waltz time, but thoroughly vocal, though, to sing it with effect (for it abounds in difficulties), the vocalist must be named Miolan-Carvalho, Marie Cabel, or Louisa Pyne. Of course it is fragmentary, or it would not be Meyerbeer's; moreover, it would not be appropriate to the situation, for Dinorah is dancing to her shadow, talking to it, consulting it, and upbraiding it, when, through no fault of its own, but simply in consequence of the moon being overclouded, it disappears. The scene is charmingly treated by the composer, and Madame Miolan acts it and sings the music to perfection.

We must inform the reader now that from Hoel's entry in act I, to the finale of act II, the dramatic action of the piece does not progress in the least. The catastrophe of act II might just as well have occurred at the end of act I. As it is, after the lovely shadow song (of which the second movement, the most difficult of the two, was cruelly encored), Corentin sings an air which is very characteristic, like the rest of his music, and which lets the audience (for the fourth time) into the secret that he is a coward. Then Dinorah sings another wonderful legend, which Corentin overhears, and from which he learns that the mortal who is the first to touch one of the Breton magic treasures will die within the year. A buffo duet follows (in which Corentin and Hoel dispute with humorous selfishness as to which shall be the first to handle the wished-for prize), and at last Corentin suggests that the "mad woman," meaning Dinorah, should be invited to take hold of it.

A duet between Corentin and Dinorah is developed into a trio. Then a storm breaks out; the situation of the finale to act I is repeated with the addition of lightning and agitated music; the goat reappears, Dinorah follows it across a narrow bridge, falls into a torrent, and at that moment is recognised by Hoel. We must mention that at the beginning of act II, (after the chorus) Mlle. Didée sings a new air, which Meyerbeer has written more in the Italian style than the text of the music.

The third act would be very short but for the introduction of several hunters', reapers', and goatherds' songs, which are all admirable, and which all delay the action of the piece. When Hoel enters with the seemingly lifeless body of Dinorah, the story becomes for the first time interesting. Hoel's air, "O mon remords," is the most flowing melody in the opera. It is very sad, indeed—full of despair, but very beautiful. An admirable duet with Dinorah restored to life and reason, the chorus to the Virgin already heard in the overture, and the *moreau d'ensemble*, in which the principal personage brings this dull drama but exquisite opera to a conclusion.

Of course no more is said about the treasure, and Hoel marries Dinorah. What becomes of Corentin is not worth the trouble of asking. Next week we shall have more to say on the subject of Dinorah. We shall have at the same time to speak of the "Vêpres," which was played on Wednesday with great success.

THE SUEZ CANAL.—The Constantinople correspondent of the *Times* writes as follows, on the 13th of July: "The Suez Canal scheme has entered on the last phase of its existence. Unable to obtain the sanction of the Porte to the project on which he had embarked, M. de Lesseps resorted to the last expedient of commencing his undertaking without the required permission. Your readers have probably been already made aware of the fact that certain operations had been commenced in the neighbourhood of Pelusium, and that this proceeding drew from Scherif Pacha, the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs, a notification to the effect that the sanction of the Sublime Porte not having been obtained, the works would not be allowed to progress. M. de Lesseps, on the part of the company, maintains that the operations in question come within the category of *études et opérations préparatoires*, which he has been authorised by the Viceroy to engage in, and for which the Sultan's permission is not requisite. From the parade and ceremony with which these works were inaugurated, the fact that their promoters regarded them as something more than mere essays or experiments cannot be doubted. Evidently La Compagnie Universelle approaches its dissolution. Yet a little while, and the Suez Canal question will probably be embodied in a large claim for compensation on the Viceroy of Egypt. To such an end are the most magnificent projects in the East apt to come."

HOW LUNATIC SOLDIERS ARE TREATED.—The editor of the *Chatham News* exposes an abuse which deserves attention. Amongst the suffering soldiers in hospital are some who suffer, "not from a broken limb, but from a broken mind. They should be—they are—the objects of the deepest commiseration. Time runs on; patients cannot be kept for ever in a hospital intended for temporary cases alone; a number of the poor lunatics are pronounced incurable. Inquiries are made, and out of—say—seven cases, the authorities discover the parishes of six of the men; and they are forwarded to their 'settlements.' But the seventh? his parish is unknown; his country must provide for him. After so much care bestowed on him, it does provide for him—it 'deserts' him in the street! Notice is sent to the authorities of the nearest parish, or to the police, that at such a time and place a lunatic soldier will be turned adrift. The highest military authorities of the State have provided no refuge for cases of this kind; the law officers of the Crown direct the highest military authorities at Chatham that this is the legal way of disposing of the poor lunatic soldier. The parish officers naturally object to having a burden thus thrust upon them in such a fashion. And this week has witnessed the spectacle of a lunatic soldier attempted to be thrown on the parish—rejected by the parish officers—wandering about the streets, but fortunately watched by another soldier, and, it is said, taken back to Fort Pitt. The authorities of Rochester have come into collision with the military authorities on the subject; and the Crown officers threaten penal proceedings against the parish!"

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO LORD MANNERS.—Earl Vane sent a valuable horse to Lord Manners for his Lordship to try. The horse was brought to the door of his Lordship's residence in Upper Brook-street, and seemed very quiet, but the moment Lord Manners was mounted it dashed at a furious pace up the street, and became perfectly unmanageable. Notwithstanding many efforts to check his career, he made with increased speed for the foot entrance-gate of the park and dashed in. The iron bars across the entrance being very low caught the head of the unfortunate nobleman, and with terrible force he was hurled to the ground. He was conveyed in an insensible condition to his residence, having sustained very serious injuries. His Lordship's state is described as favourable. The horse was shortly afterwards caught and killed.

WRECK OF THE TURKISH STEAMERS "KARS" AND "SILISTRIA."

ABOUT three years ago three large screw-steamers were built for the Turkish Government in the Clyde. These were the Kars, the Silistria, and the Malakoff. For some time past these and other Government steamers have been let to a company for the conveyance of goods and passengers, but with very questionable benefit to the finances of the State, whatever may have been the result as regards the managers of the company and the authorities at the Admiralty. Intelligence has now been received of the total loss of the Kars and Silistria, the details published by the Constantinople journals respecting the latter being so revolting that they cannot fail to deter, for years to come, Europeans from risking their lives or property on board Turkish steamers.

The Kars, it appears, left Alexandria on the 23rd of May, with more than 300 passengers, and has not since been heard of. But between Damietta and El Arish a boat has been found with a small flag inscribed Kars, and several dead bodies, so that a total loss is feared.

The Silistria left Alexandria for Constantinople on the 25th of June, with about 350 persons on board. The next day, about noon, a loud crash was heard among the timbers of the ship, and the engine stopped. It was shortly set in motion again, by whose orders is not known, and the crash was again heard; the screw was broken, and the water was entering the hold rapidly. The bad condition of the machinery had been remarked on at Alexandria. For an hour nothing was done towards stopping the leak, but at last a Russian engineer on board made his way to the hole and attempted to stop it with tarred hemp, which probably prevented the ship from sinking rapidly. The captain embraced him when he came on deck, and relapsed into his former state of bewildered incompetence. The same engineer found the tap of a bilge-pump, but there was no hose, and it was consequently useless: in fact, with the exception of a pump on deck, out of order, no means existed of clearing the ship of water, and they had to take off the after skylight and empty, or try to empty, the cabins by buckets.

Not a soul of the crew or Turkish passengers afforded the least assistance, and the pump was manned and the buckets worked by the European passengers and twenty-eight Austrian sailors who were on board. The crew refusing to work, there were too few to keep the water under, and it soon began to enter at the sternports. An unsuccessful attempt was made to stop the leak by passing a tarpaulin under the keel, and the captain at last consented to throw over part of his cargo and coals. The danger became more and more evident, and then the Turkish passengers, in a paroxysm of stupid fanaticism apparently, rose on the Europeans and threatened them death if they attempted to speak to the captain.

The night of the 25th was employed in incessant labour as regards the Europeans, while the Turkish crew slept on the deck. On the morning of the 26th an Egyptian Government brig laden with wood hove in sight. The captain of the Silistria sent on board offering him an indemnity if he would abandon his cargo and take the passengers of the steamer on board, and endeavour to tow her into Alexandria. The Egyptian would do nothing, except cast them a tow rope, having probably little faith in the promises of Mustafa Bey.

This individual did not even know where he was, for there was no chronometer on board, not even a sextant, and only one compass. He marched about with a pistol in each hand, threatening all who approached the boats which he had lowered and guarded by marines. About five in the evening the women were at length allowed to go on board the brig, and in the course of the night Said Pacha, the Turkish Commissary at Djeddah, followed with his suite, carefully removing all his effects, including a water melon. But the three boats which conveyed him did not return to the steamer. The captain of the brig still refused to abandon his cargo, and finally cut the tow rope, going off with the boats, and leaving the Silistria to her fate.

Then came a horrible scene of pillage and violence, the Turks plundering the baggage of the Europeans, in which they were joined by the crew, and a regular saturnalia ensued. They then seized the sole remaining boat, throwing into the sea the Europeans who attempted to embark, and cutting off the head of a young Austrian with an axe in the mêlée. On the 27th the water had reached the bulwarks, and the workers were exhausted. Happily the Egyptian brig reappeared, the boats came back, and a *sauve qui peut* commenced, but the ferocious Turkish passengers opposed every attempt on the part of the Europeans to save those who were exhausted by the labour at the pumps. Shortly after the Silistria went down, with 77 passengers on board, the brig carrying into Alexandria 273 passengers and sailors, the Europeans being exposed during the passage to the violence and brutality of the Turks.

A commission of inquiry has been opened as to the causes which led to this disaster. The preceding account coming from Egypt, and is through a Greek source (as is highly probable), the Turks justly observe that it needs some confirmation.

FIRE AT THE LONDON DOCKS.

The alarming fact was discovered on Friday morning that a fire had broken out in the brandy vault at the Wapping Basin, which was known to contain some thousands of casks of brandy. At eight o'clock the vault was opened as usual, the coopers and labourers working by the aid of the approved spirit-lamps, which are sent out for use, fastened by a padlock, so that the flame cannot be reached except by fracturing the glass. The first intimation of the fire was given a few minutes after nine, by some labourers who were rolling up casks for delivery, one of whom asserts that he saw a sheet of fire suddenly start from below a tier of casks some distance from the mouth of the vault. On the alarm being given the ships moored alongside the quays adjoining were at once hauled off, the delivery loopholes of the vault closed against the air, and the company's "floats" sent for. In a very short time the company's engines were recruited from Watling-street and Wellclose-square, to the number of nine. Of these, however, but few were available, the fire occurring in a space so confined as to be very difficult of access. In fact, assistance was superabundant from all quarters, and unfortunately many of the volunteers, who, with the brigade men, forced their way through the narrow mouth of the vault towards the centre, suffered a severe penalty for their zeal. At one time there were no less than thirty firemen and assistants lying insensible upon the quay. They had been struck by the heated vapour of the vaults, which was so noxious that it extinguished their lamps. Fortunately they were hauled up by ropes. Several were borne off to the company's receiving-houses, apparently lifeless. The rest revived under the restoratives of several medical gentlemen who were present.

The conflagration was not entirely extinguished until late in the afternoon, when the vapour had so far cleared off that the firemen were enabled to re-enter and examine the place. They found that about fifty casks of brandy had been destroyed, and a great number of other "pieces" of brandy severely damaged—many of the casks having the wooden hoops burned off, and the casks kept together only by the iron bandages. The spirits contained in these, it is hardly necessary to state, must have been greatly deteriorated in value, for to such a height did the heat become that even the bungs were driven out of the barrels.

The official report describes the damage done as follows:—The stock of brandy in three arches destroyed, and the goods in another partly consumed.

The most serious casualty is the death, by drowning in the dock, of a poor fellow who suddenly slipped from one of the floats, and whose life was irrecoverable when the body was found.

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES.—These estimates this year amount to £1,028,236, being an increase of £392,347 over those of 1855. The estimates include £7949 for the Zambesi expedition, £12,000 for the African rivers exploring expedition, £2000 for the British Historical Portrait Gallery, £2000 for the purchase of Sir George Hayter's picture of the House of Commons, £5000 as a donation to Mr. W. H. Barber in consideration of the sufferings he has undergone, £1650 for a pedestal to be erected in Old Palace-yard for Baron Marchetti's statue of Richard Cour de Lion, and £17,000 for cleansing the Serpentine.

LAW AND CRIME.

WILLIAM WORSEY was this week tried for the wilful murder of his wife, at West Bromwich. From the evidence it appeared that on the 11th inst. a quarrel arose between the prisoner and the deceased. The prisoner in a fit of passion seized a large carving-knife and hurled it at his wife. Unfortunately the weapon nearly buried itself in the poor woman's neck. The prisoner drew out the knife, endeavoured to stop the bleeding, and sent for a doctor, but his wife died in half an hour. The prisoner appears to have lived comfortably with the deceased generally, but during the fatal quarrel there was cursing and bad language on both sides. After the death of the woman the prisoner appeared much distressed, and fell to crying, and exclaimed, "I have done that I little thought of doing; she stood provoking me, and I threw the knife out of my hand at her." It was passion and aggravation. Mr. Justice Byles in summing up the evidence directed the jury that if the prisoner stabbed his wife with the knife or even threw it at her intending to kill her or to do her grievous bodily harm he was guilty of murder. If he threw the knife intending it to reach her flesh he must have intended it to do her grievous bodily harm, and so was guilty of murder; but if he threw it at her carelessly, not intending it to reach her flesh, he would be guilty of manslaughter only. The jury found the prisoner guilty of murder "according to the exposition of the law given by his Lordship," but strongly recommended the prisoner to mercy, as they were convinced that he did not intend that it should end fatally. They expressed a unanimous hope that his Lordship and the Sheriff would strengthen that recommendation, upon the ground of strong extenuating circumstances. His Lordship then passed sentence of death, and said that he could give the prisoner no reason whatever to hope or expect mercy. Now, unless the reports of this trial happen to be singularly defective, one most important point appears to have been withheld from the jury, who only performed their duty in following the Judge's exposition of the law. The great distinction between murder and manslaughter has hitherto been held to be the absence of deliberate malice. A death caused by a man in the heat of passion without previous malice has been supposed to be manslaughter only. "The law," says Blackstone, "pays that regard to human frailty as not to put a hasty and deliberate act upon the same footing with regard to guilt. So if a man be greatly provoked, and immediately kills the aggressor, though this is not excusable . . . yet neither is it murder, for there is no previous malice, but it is manslaughter." Had this distinction been laid before the jury, can it be doubted that their verdict would have convicted the prisoner of manslaughter only?

One of our contemporaries a day or two since published, in a leading article, a caution against certain advertisements appearing in another portion of the paper, especially one by which great profits were promised upon small investments based upon calculations which our contemporary broadly intimates are founded upon gambling. It may be as well to expose another, and perhaps still more successful, system of fraudulent advertising, by which a large bonus is promised upon the temporary loan of a few pounds upon ample "security." Having investigated the security we may state its nature and describe its worthlessness. It consists of the deposit of certain transfer notes for the delivery to the transferee of certain articles of plate or jewellery in the hands of a "silversmith," as security for certain specified sums and interest. The "silversmith" is actually a pawnbroker. The goods can only be seen by the victim on payment of the arrears of interest. When he sees them he finds them, in fact, what they pretend to be. Although what is called "duffing" articles, they are actually gold or silver, as described. The trick is this:—The goods, being manufactured, are necessarily of some-what uncertain value. The gold chronometer is a gold chronometer, and is pledged for ten pounds, as represented; but, should the victim ever redeem it, he may rest assured it will never be sold or pledged for that sum again, and what is more, as it will certainly not go, it can be of no other service to him. The only benefit of the security will therefore be that the dupe will be at liberty, in addition to the loss of his loan, to obtain "duffing" goods at a dear rate. The highest value approximates so nearly to the amount of the pawnbroker's advance as just to save the chance of an indictment for conspiracy against the broker himself. The best course for the holders of such security is simply to rest contented with the first loss. Probably many of them do so, and, if so, the same articles probably serve as "security" to many a lender. "Duffing" articles of pinchbeck or pewter have been heard of before, but to construct them of the valuable metals is a new and ingenious branch of manufacture which we hope to see meet with the encouragement it deserves.

We remember having heard of a stalwart comic singer, perfectly void of all qualification for that calling, who aided a remarkably brief success by his custom of offering to thrash any unlucky auditor who hissed him. The Curate of St. Michael's, Tenbury, appears to afford a parallel to the eccentric anti-humourist of the Cider Cellars. It appears that the Curate is the curator of a show established in, and, in fact, consisting of, the interior of St. Michael's Church. The fame of the decorative art there displayed is trumpeted to visitors to the neighbourhood, and among others reached the ears of a little travelling merchant named Pettitt, who, having driven to Tenbury, dined there, and prudently halted after just so many postprandial "sherries" and "cidars" as were consistent with his ideas of temperance, left his gig at his inn while he sallied forth to view the inner glories of St. Michael's. He stared at the brass ornaments, the angular, illegible decorative inscriptions, the gilding, and the polychromy—all which, one might think, were there for the sole purpose of being stared at, as it could clearly raise no devotional sentiment in a blind man. The visage of Pettitt manifested no delight at the sight, and its expression led to his being ordered out by the vergers. No service was proceeding at the time, and the congregation had departed. Pettitt demurred to the vergers' authority to turn an English Churchman out of an English church, and gave vent to allusions derogatory to Puseyism. The ecclesiastical force, headed by the clergyman in a black waistcoat, turned to the throat, starched cravat, and spectacles complete, mustered in aid of the vergers, and, after a disgraceful struggle, put him out. When outside, with his "stout beaver coat" by the way, a man on his back, Pettitt was given into charge of a

rural constable. The Curate addressed the constable in a mild speech, which shows the reverend gentleman's high qualifications for the Jesuitical order:—"Child, here is the man. He has been very violent, and has been kicking. Have you any handcuffs with you? He will try to get away as you go over the common. As you have your handcuffs with you, you will probably have to use them; but it is nothing to me, as he is now in your custody." Curiously enough, Pettitt was handcuffed, with such violence, too, as to lacerate his wrists. Moreover, he was marched in this state for two miles, and at length imprisoned in a filthy cell. At last the charge was dismissed by the magistrates. Whereon Mr. Pettitt has brought an action against the reverend gentleman, and recovered £12 damages, with full costs.

POLICE.

FRIGHTFUL OUTRAGE.—Mortis Reece, a young man, was charged with being concerned in stealing from the person of a gentleman unknown, and with a most atrocious assault upon a police-constable. The injured officer (Bone, 181 H) gave his testimony in a very feeble tone, and manifestly while suffering acute agony. He was accommodated with a chair, his right arm suspended in a sling, and his great-coat hung near him exhibited an irregular tear down the left sleeve. He said:—"In the afternoon of Saturday last I was on duty in Whitechapel, and observed the prisoner in company with another man near George-yard. Knowing both, and the prisoner in particular, as having been three times convicted, I watched, and distinctly saw him abstract a handkerchief from the pocket of a gentleman. I directly afterwards ran down George-yard after him, at the same time calling on constable Pearce to follow me. A load of straw halfway down the yard brought prisoner to a stop, and he asked, 'What do you want with me?' I answered, 'You ought to know; for what you have just done.' I told him that I should take him into custody. He instantly replied, 'If you do I'll have your life.' I put my hand on his neckerchief. Pearce came up, and took hold of him. Prisoner put his right hand into his jacket pocket, and withdrawing it directly, I saw this hook in his hand at that moment, and he made a blow at my bowels with it. The blow was given round my left arm, and I felt a slight cut on it. The hook had penetrated through the over and under coat, shirt, and flannel. I put my foot behind prisoner, and tripped him up. He lay on his back, fighting desperately with the hook, and made a lunge, exclaiming, 'I'll tear your entrails out.' I avoided that by stepping quickly backward, and then, going at him again, endeavoured to grasp his wrists, but he struck at my right hand, and one of the hooks entered the ball of the thumb. Prisoner, finding this, pulled, and the thumb was torn to the very point. I tried to get my staff, and was obliged to release my hold of him for that purpose. He twisted away from the other constable, and ran off. I followed with my brother officer, and found him in custody of a third officer in Osborne-street; as I went up he made a blow with the hook at my throat, and then I struck him with my staff on the head. I remember nothing more until experiencing excessive pain consequent upon an operation being performed. I have lost about two quarts of blood. My arm is useless at present, and the service of my thumb cannot be restored. At the station I subsequently saw the prisoner, who said, 'This is only a flea bite; I wish it had been a knife, and I would have ripped you up. Should you get over this I'll have your life.'"

Prisoner—What sort of handkerchief was it I took from the gentleman's pocket?
Bone—A red one; and I believe that you "passed" it.
Mr. D'Eyncourt—Should the gentleman read this case he will probably come forward.

Pearce, 120 H, corroborated in every particular the above evidence, and
Harris, 81 H, stated that he stopped the prisoner running with the hook in his hand, at the top of his speed, followed by the two policemen. Bone became insensible, and was removed to a surgeon's. Prisoner, on the way to the station, said, "Well, he has not got me for nothing; all I wish is that I had got hold of his throat with it; that is what I intended. I wanted to have done for him outright." Subsequently he observed, "He cannot give me more than three months for it."

Mr. John Fernley, a surgeon, deposed—Bone was brought to me insensible, and bleeding profusely from a jagged wound on the right hand. The veins of the thumb were drawn out at the centre of the hand three inches, and I separated them. His sufferings must have been agonising, and I consider that his life is in imminent danger. It was against my wish he attended here. Lockjaw may set in at any moment, independently of other dangerous symptoms. The wound on the left arm was very slight. I know him as a most respectable officer of the district to which he is attached.

Mr. D'Eyncourt—I shall send you for trial, prisoner, for inflicting injury dangerous to life. If the constable dies, you will be hanged, as sure as you stand at that bar; and even if he does not the punishment for the offence committed is that of death. You will be lucky to escape; these outrages will not cease until some of the thieves in that neighbourhood are so dealt with. This officer I am truly sorry for; he was a most active and efficient one. You are remanded.

The hook in question has two barbed points, such as are used by packers.

UNLAWFUL CONVERSION.—John Trumbull, agent, was charged with having unlawfully converted to his own use three pieces of cotton velvet and two pieces of brocade, of the value together of £5 18s., which had been entrusted to his care by John Lewis Gordon, of 30, Cheap-side, commission agent.

The prisoner endeavoured to show that his dealing with the prosecutor, whom he had known for a great number of years, was one of an ordinary credit transaction; but

The Lord Mayor decided upon sending the case to a jury; and the prisoner was accordingly committed for trial, his application for bail being refused.

"BOATSWAIN SMITH" STILL VIVACIOUS—OPEN-AIR PREACHING.—The Rev. Mr. Smith, alias Boatswain Smith, was brought before Mr. Burcham, charged with preaching near the obelisk, St. George's-road, Southwark, he having been on several former occasions taken into custody on a similar charge.

It appeared from the evidence of a police-constable that, about half-past four o'clock the previous afternoon, he was on duty near the obelisk, when he saw a crowd of persons, in the midst of whom was the prisoner, who was preaching. He asked the prisoner to discontinue preaching, which he refused to do. Witness waited till another constable came up, when he was taken into custody and conveyed to the station-house. He had a Bible in his possession, and continued addressing the crowd all the way to the police-station.

The prisoner, in a very incoherent manner, addressed the magistrate, maintaining that he had a mission to preach.

Mr. Burcham remarked that he had had cases brought before him of persons charged with picking pockets at these meetings.

An inspector of the L division stated that there was an open-air meeting in Lambeth which is called "Thieves' Chapel." He added that the prisoner had preached there. He told him that it was not allowed, and, after being taken to the station, he promised not to go to the place again.

Mr. Burcham observed that the prisoner could not be allowed to preach where his doing so would cause an obstruction to the public thoroughfare. If he or any one else were brought to him on a similar charge he should inflict a punishment as far as the law would permit. The prisoner was discharged.

TRESPASSING TOO FAR ON HOSPITALITY.—John Wilden, about sixty years of age, described as a boatman, having no settled place of abode, was charged with having attempted to terminate his existence.

On the previous afternoon, between two and three o'clock, the prisoner entered unperceived the loft of a beer-shop-keeper in Seymour-place, St. Pancras. In consequence of a noise which the landlord heard he went into the loft alluded to to see what was the matter, when he observed the prisoner with a cord, the ends of which were tied to a rafter, firmly fixed to a noose round his neck. He was extricated at a moment when he was evidently about to carry his suicidal intention into effect, and was suffered to go away. A constable who had been called followed him, and saw him climb over a fence close to the Regent's canal, upon which he (the officer) rushed forward, just in time to prevent him from plunging into the water. He expressed his regret that he had been interfered with, and said that he would make away with himself the next opportunity he had.

The prisoner, in answer to the magistrate, said he was unhappy in his mind, and had no home to go to. Mr. Broughton remanded him for a week.

DARING ROBBERY.—Charlotte Smith and Ellen Neale were brought before Mr. Selfe, charged with stealing a purse containing 9s. 6d. in silver from Mary Ann Teapes, the wife of a railway clerk.

Complainant said she went into the Garrick public-house in Leman-street, Whitechapel, at ten minutes before twelve o'clock on Friday night, and drank a bottle of lemonade. While there she had her purse in her hand. The prisoners were in the same house a few yards from her, and no doubt saw her purse. As she was leaving the house the prisoner Smith snatched the purse from her and passed it to Neale. The purse contained 3s. 6d.

Thames Sparkes, a youth, said that he saw Smith seize the prosecutrix round her waist and take the purse from her. Neale put her hand under Smith's shawl and said to her, "Pass it to me, pass it to me!" He seized Neale's arm and said to her, "Give me the purse," and she did so, and he handed it to an officer.

The prisoners, who stoutly denied having seen the purse at all, were committed for trial.

FORTUNE-TELLING.—Catherine Doyle, an old sunburnt woman, was charged with obtaining several articles of wearing apparel from a servant girl under the pretence of telling her fortune.

Johanna Andrews, a girl apparently not more than ten or twelve years of age, deposed that she was in the service of a gentleman named Power, residing at No. 2, Garway-road, Bayswater. Shortly after twelve o'clock that day she had been out for her dinner beer, when she was stopped by the prisoner, who said, with a mysterious air, that she had a few words to tell her. Her curiosity was naturally aroused, and she inquired their purport. She then said she would like to tell her fortune. Witness asked her how much she charged, and she replied sixpence. Witness told her she only had a fourpenny piece, but the prisoner appeared satisfied with that amount, and told her to put it in her left hand. She did as she was requested, and the prisoner then cuffed her (witness's) hand three times with it. She then began to tell her fortune. She kept me talking some time, and then told me to take her in, and to obtain the three things I carried on my back. She came to the kitchen door at my request, and I gave her two of my best dresses and a flannel petticoat. She folded them up and said I must keep them folded for twenty-four hours. She afterwards said she must take them home to put them on the book of knowledge. I then went with her to the place where she said she lived, and she then told me to stop at the corner. She was away about ten minutes, when she brought back the inferior of the two dresses. I told her that I must have the others, and, after some hesitation, she promised to fetch them. I, however, waited an hour, and she never returned.

Mr. Dayman—who had the fourpenny piece?

Witness—She took it.

The prisoner admitted she was guilty, and said the young woman encouraged her to tell her fortune.

Mr. Dayman said the young woman was a great fool, that was quite clear, and that the prisoner was a great rogue was equally clear. Although she was such a fool she must be protected, and he, therefore, had great pleasure in sending the prisoner to the House of Correction for three months, with hard labour.

The prisoner was then removed; and his Worship directed the clothes to be given up to the complainant, at the same time telling her she did not deserve to have them for her own folly.

THE ATTEMPTED MURDER IN SHOE-LANE.—Michael Herring, one of three men who attempted to strangle a female servant in the employ of Messrs. Dale and Devey, coppersmiths, of Shoe-lane, with the view of robbing the premises, was placed at the bar for further examination.

Alfred Green, City detective, said he had received information that prisoner was well known in Manchester as an associate of thieves, and he therefore asked for a remand, to make further inquiries.

Inspector Leonard said he had no doubt, if an accurate description of the prisoner were well circulated, very important information relative to his antecedents would be obtained.

The magistrate said he was quite sure the press would give its assistance for the purposes of justice.

The prisoner is about thirty years of age, 5ft. 7in. high, florid complexion, broad-built, and speaks with the Manchester dialect.

The prisoner was accordingly remanded.

CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.—Henry Parker, a Richmond carrier, was charged with being drunk, and causing the death of John Grisley, by driving over him.

George H. Morley, omnibus-timekeeper, deposed—I was on duty in Gracechurch-street about seven o'clock on Friday evening, when I saw a man pulling a truck coming along the road, while the prisoner was driving a cart behind him. The man who was pulling the truck suddenly fell down on his face, but whether he slipped of himself or whether the defendant's cart touched the truck, so as to throw him down, I cannot say. As soon as he was down the defendant attempted to pull off, but did not succeed in doing so until the wheel of his cart had run over the man's loins. The prisoner was driving very steadily at the time—not more than five miles an hour, I should say, and he did not appear to be drunk, although he was very much excited. I believe the whole thing to have been an accident. After it happened the prisoner stopped quietly, without attempting to get away, till an officer came up whom I had called.

A police-constable said he was on duty in Gracechurch-street, and found a man lying in the road who had been run over. He picked the man up and took him to St. Thomas's Hospital, and then took the prisoner into custody, as the bystanders said he had run over him. That morning witness had received a certificate from St. Thomas's Hospital stating that the man run over had died.

The Lord Mayor remanded the prisoner to await the result of the coroner's inquest, but admitted him to bail.

THE FIRE KING AND THE EMPEROR OF FIRE.—About a fortnight since Christoforo Buono Core, the "Italian Salamander," or "Fire King," at Cremorne Gardens, was charged with attempting to poison Francisco Filippini, another Italian, styling himself the "Emperor of Fire."

On this, the fourth hearing, one of the witnesses for the prosecution was absent, and the magistrate directed the prisoner's discharge.

The prosecutor was then placed in the dock for perjury and conspiracy, and, after evidence being given by the "Fire King," was remanded.

A DUSTMAN THIRSTY.—Thomas Brown, a dustman, was charged with stealing two bottles of wine, the property of Mr. Stubbs, grocer, of Church-street, Greenwich.

Prisoner was engaged in removing dust from a cellar in which there were the four bottles of wine; and, the prosecutor having some suspicion, a lad was sent into the cellar while prisoner was up with a basket of dust at the cart, and a bottle was missed. When another basket went up a second bottle was missed, and they were found secreted in the dust in the cart.

A conviction for a similar robbery in 1842 was proved against the prisoner, and, as he pleaded guilty, he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and hard labour.

ODD PROOF OF SUSPICION.—Frederick Somers, a very tall, thin, young man, was charged with robbery. It appeared that the prisoner was seen in company with four men by a witness, who, from their suspicious movements, was induced to watch them; and he soon after saw them surround the prosecutor, who stopped outside a crowd to see what was going on.

Mr. Hearder said—Directly he stopped he was hemmed in on all sides, and the prisoner was one of the most prominent in pressing upon him, and it was in his direction that the gold watch, value twenty guineas, disappeared.

Mr. Wontner urged for the prisoner that there was no evidence to show that he took the watch.

Alderman Challis said—Perhaps not, but there was of his being a rogue and a vagabond.

Mr. Wontner said it must be proved he was a reputed thief to be dealt with in that way.

Alderman Cubitt said it had been proved he was a suspected person, or the witness would not have watched him.

The prisoner was then committed to the House of Correction for two months with hard labour.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.—A frightful tragedy has taken place in St. Luke's. A woman named Whip cut the throat of her female child, and then destroyed her own life. She had been in a low and desponding state of mind.

OPPRESSION OF FARM LABOURERS.—An attorney communicates the following case of tyranny:—"A man hired to look after and to go with a team of horses, with a boy to assist him and to supply his place during his occasional absence, left at seven o'clock one evening to attend a club in an adjoining parish. The team duties had been completed for the day, save that of supplying to the horses their last feed of hay, which he, as he had often formerly done, entrusted to the boy, and he resumed his work at the usual hour, half-past four, on the following morning. Neither his master nor the foreman, both of whom he saw in the course of the day, made to him any complaint of his absence. The first intimation he received of the alleged desertion of service was from a police constable, who, with a warrant from a neighbouring magistrate, arrested him and conducted him to a lock-up house, whence on the following morning, without having had any opportunity of consulting any one, or of preparing any defence, he was brought up before the very magistrate who had granted the warrant, who convicted him of deserting his master's service, and sentenced him to three weeks' hard labour. Having just completed that term he has now come to consult me as to his means of redress, the first opportunity he has as yet had of consulting any one. His remedy is of course to be sought through an appeal to the Court of Queen's Bench, to do which he must enter into two recognisances of £50 each, and fee counsel to conduct his case. Your readers can judge therefore whether redress is obtainable by a man earning 12s. weekly, whose wages have been suspended during his imprisonment."

A PRETTY BOY!—On Thursday evening week some four or five lads were bathing from a boat on the river near Frome. One of them, Henry Cuzner, got into the boat without leave, and was pushed into the water. Cuzner then commenced throwing stones at those who remained in the boat, upon which Edwin Coles left the boat with another, and threatened Cuzner. No sooner, however, were they again seated in the boat than Cuzner again threw at them, and afterwards, on the road home, Cuzner flung a large stone at Coles, which struck him, and at the same time said that if he (Coles) struck him, he would stab him. The next morning Cuzner sent several insulting messages to Coles. Presently they met in the passage which separates their houses, when Cuzner plunged his knife into the left side of Coles, from the effects of which he died on Saturday. Coles is the son of a farmer, and Cuzner of a clothier.

A LIGHTERMAN PASSING UP THE THAMES NEAR HAMPTON saw a bather struggling in the water and sink. He fished the body out with his bathhook, and found it to be that of a woman—Mrs. Ellis, described as a lady of small income.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

The steady influx of gold from various quarters, and the rumours afloat to the effect that the naval forces of England and France will be reduced by mutual consent, have produced a steady improvement in the market for home stocks, the prices of which have rather advanced. Consols for money have been done at 94½; for the account, 95 to 95½. The 100 reduced have realised 95 to 94½; and the New 3 per Cents, 95½ to 94½. Long Annuities have been 11½; ditto, 30 years, 19; Eschequer Bills, 27s. to 26s. prem.; India Bonds, 6s. to 6s. 10d.; ditto New Loans, 72½; ditto 4 per Cents, 104½; Venezuela 9 per Cents, 41; ditto 2½ per Cents, new, 28½; Dutch 2½ per Cents, 63½; and Dutch 4 per Cents, 100½.

The discount market has been active, and the rates have had an upward tendency. The lowest quotation for the best short paper in Lombard street is now 2½ per cent, and the supply offering is much larger than for some time past.

The transactions in the Foreign House have been to a moderate extent, and prices generally have been well supported. Brazilian 5 per Cents have realised 103½; ditto 4½ per Cents, 95½; Mexican 3 per Cents, 19½ to 19; Peruvian 4½ per Cents, 90; Portuguese 3 per Cents, 41; Russian 4½ per Cents, 99½; Spanish 3 per Cents, 43½; Turkish 6 per Cents, 82½; ditto New Loans, 72½; ditto 4 per Cents, 104½; Venezuela 9 per Cents, 41; ditto 2½ per Cents, new, 28½; Dutch 2½ per Cents, 63½; and Dutch 4 per Cents, 100½.

Owing to the pressure of stock upon the market, railway securities have been much less active; nevertheless we have very little change to notice in the quotations. The traffic receipts continue in excess of last year on nearly all the principal lines.

Banking Shares have been somewhat flat; Bank of Egypt have marked 2½; Ottoman, 17½; Australasia, 81; Bank of London, 48½; London Chartered of Australia, 20½; London and Westminster, 51½; South Australia, 30½; ditto new, 48½; and Union of London, 24½ ex div.

Miscellaneous securities have ruled steady as to price, but the transactions in them have been comparatively small. Australian Agricultural have sold at 29; Herin Waterworks, 27; Crystal Palace, 19; Red Sea and India Telegraph, 10½; Rhymney Iron, 22½; Royal Mail Steam, 49½; South Australian Land, 35; London Dock Shares, 70 ex div.

Canada Government 6 per Cent Bonds have marked 112½; New Brunswick 5 per Cents, 108½; New South Wales ditto, 98½; and Victoria 6 per Cents, 110.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Only limited supplies of English wheat have been on offer here this week. The demand has somewhat improved, and prices have advanced 1s. to 2s. per quarter. In foreign wheat, the show of which has been extensive, very little has been passing, on former terms. A sample of new English wheat has been exhibited in poor condition. Early, both English and foreign, has moved off slowly, at late rates, and about 20 quarters of new have sold at 26s. per quarter; its quality was inferior. The malt trade has been in a depressed state, at barely late currencies. Oats, beans, and peas have moved off steadily, at full quotations. Flour has commanded rather more attention, at extreme rates.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Wheat, Essex and Kent Red, 37s. to 43s.; ditto, White, 40s. to 43s.; Norfolk and Lincoln, Red, 37s. to 44s.; Rye, 32s. to 34s.; Grinding Harrier, 30s. to 29s.; Distilling, 27s. to 32s.; Malt, 26s. to 15s.; New Loan, 72s. to 69s.; Feed Oats, 24s. to 26s.; Oats, 28s. to 34s.; Tick Beans, 41s. to 48s.; Green Peas, 42s. to 46s.; Maple, 42s. to 46s.; Rollers, 42s. to 46s. per quarter. Town-made Flour, 42s. to 48s.; Town households, 35s. Country Marks, 26s. to 32s. per 80lb.